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THURSDAY, JULY 16TH, 2009

Cowbridge men swap business suits for ultimate cycling test

by PHILIP IRWIN

TWO prominent members of the Cowbridge business community are setting out later this month to tackle the ultimate cycling challenge – the notorious Mont Ventoux, made famous in the Tour de France.

Phil Thomas, a surveyor at Herbert R Thomas, and Richard Beech, a solicitor at Beech and Co, will be riding exactly the same 170 kilometre stage that cycling legends such as Lance Armstrong will tackle this year on July 25.

The pair will be riding the stage several days before the Tour arrives, and they are aiming to raise money for Ty Hafan.

One thing is certain – every penny they raise will be paid for in sweat and physical effort.

The stage in question has a number of very testing climbs scattered over the first 160 kilometres, and then at the end looms Mont Ventoux – nicknamed 'the Beast of Provence' – with the finish at the summit, almost 2,000 metres above sea level.

That works out at very nearly twice the height of Mount Snowdon. Just to make it more interesting, thanks to the Mistral, there are only 120 days each year when the windspeed drops below 55 mph!

Phil Thomas told The GEM that it was nine months since he had accepted the challenge, after "a good night in his local".

He had never ridden a bike seriously, but he was encouraged that his mentor would be Richard Beech, who is a lifelong competitive amateur cyclist and a member of the Ogmore Valley Wheelers, a well-established local club.

Now, after clocking up an estimated 4,000 miles in training, including lung-bursting sessions up the Bwlch and Rhigos mountains, Phil finds he is 20 lbs lighter, and thinks he has a good chance of staying with Richard during the toughest moments in France.

To get a feel for competing alongside serious club cyclists, Phil joined Richard on the Tour of Flanders in April, and on the Tour of Pembrokeshire in June.

ABOVE: Richard Beech (left) and Phil Thomas are off to tackle 'The Beast of Provence'.

This was a necessary part of the preparation, because the French organisers do not allow any dawdling.

Richard explained: "Because public roads are being closed, there is a strict cut-off at various points along the way.

"You could find a gendarme waving you over to the side of the road before you even reach Mont Ventoux if you fail to keep up with the pace."

Richard expects that the pair will have to keep working hard for around eight hours to finish the stage, hopefully at that 2,000 metre summit.

When the Tour de France riders tackle it, the winner is expected to do it in around five hours. In fact, Mont Ventoux is expected to be the centrepiece of the Tour this year.

It will be the second-last stage, and the man who holds the yellow jersey at the end of the stage will be the red-hot favourite to win.

So, if as seems possible, Lance Armstrong and Alberto Contador are battling each other up the steep gradient on July 25, Phil and Richard will be watching on TV, remembering just how they felt at that point!

Anyone who would like to sponsor Phil and Richard should make a cheque out to Ty Hafan, and send it to either: Herbert R Thomas, 59, High Street, Cowbridge, or Beech and Co, The Business Centre, Town Hall Square, Cowbridge.

'My vision was to have a school where the children were inspired to learn and inspired for life. I hope that I managed to achieve that'

Retiring head of Y Bont Faen school looks back fondly

REPORT by JAYNE ISAAC

A POPULAR and successful head-teacher has retired this week from one of the leading primary schools in the Vale.

Sue Dodd has been head of Y Bont Faen Primary in Cowbridge for the past 16 years.

She took over in 1994, having taught at a number of schools in both Cardiff and the Vale.

"I was familiar with the Cowbridge area because I taught at Llansannor, which is part of the same cluster," she said.

"Coming here was the best move I made. It has always been a very happy school. The staff are brilliant and they have always moved with the times.

"Cowbridge is a wonderful community and I have had excellent support from everyone. Over the years, many changes have taken place, including the recent introduction of the foundation phase, which has seen pupils and teachers take to the great outdoors.

"But we have adapted to whatever has come along and I want to thank my colleagues and the parents for their flexibility and co-operation at all times."

Mrs Dodd comes originally from Cardiff and her first job was at a school in Ely. She later taught in various schools in the city and the Vale, including Pendoylan, before moving to Cowbridge.

She lives in Pentyrch with her husband Andrew, who is also a teacher. They are retiring together.

Mrs Dodd added: "We have two children – a son and daughter, who are both solicitors. Our daughter lives in Cardiff and our son is in Cambridge, where he was at the university."

Mrs Dodd will, however, keep in touch with her profession by working at Swansea University with students who wish to become teachers.

She also hopes to improve her Welsh by taking an advanced course: "It has always been my ambition to speak Welsh fluently and I am doing this course for me," she explained.

"We also hope to do a bit of travelling and we are also closely involved with St Catwg's Church in Pentyrch."

Y Bont Faen has 250 pupils from nursery age upwards and she said that it was very much the town school of Cowbridge – along with Ysgol Iolo Morgannwg, which caters for Welsh medium education.

"I have always invited people from outside the school to come in and work with us. A number of parents have helped with reading, and we have also had members of the University of the Third Age come along to talk to the children.

"We have enjoyed excellent links with the community. My vision was to have a school where the children were inspired to learn and inspired for life and I hope that I managed to achieve that."

There was a farewell concert last week when all the children took part. Mrs Dodd has always been very keen on the musical life of the school and has maintained her involvement with music throughout her career.

"I arranged something for the orchestra for that concert. I have also planted an apple tree in the grounds, which I hope will act as a reminder to people of the years I was at the school."

Mrs Dodd is very fond of jewellery and she received a stunning silver bracelet from the governors, and a voucher to spend in a certain leading jewellery shop in the town – which was from the children, staff and parents

"I have loved being at Y Bont Faen and I hope to keep in touch with everyone. We are now seeing the second generation of pupils coming into the school since I started. It has been a very fulfilling time," Mrs Dodd concluded.

Rugby star Rhys comes home to wed

POPULAR Cardiff Blues and Wales rugby international, Rhys Williams, will be returning to his home town next week – to get married.

On Saturday, July 25, he will be winging his way up the aisle at Holy Cross Church, Cowbridge, to marry Elizabeth (Liz) Challenor, personal assistant to his Blues boss, chief executive Robert Norster.

The 'kick-off' is at 12.30pm and his support players will be Blues team mates Tom Shanklin and Paul Tito, along with friend Christian Williams (no relation) and Glamorgan cricketer Mike Powell. Best man is former rugby player, Andrew Howard.

Rhys, who has 44 Welsh caps, was educated at Ysgol Iolo Morgannwg and Cowbridge Comprehensive.

He is the son of retired teacher Hugh and Elizabeth Williams, while his bride-to-be is the daughter of Mr Bryan Challenor, of Craven Arms, near Ludlow.

The 'match' will be attended by Cowbridge Male Voice Choir and is sure to attract a large crowd of interested spectators ready to cheer the young couple on.

City Inn future in the balance

THE future of the City Inn in Llansannor remains in the balance, as members of the Vale Council planning committee have decided to defer a decision on its future until after a site visit.

The Prisk Pub Co has put in an application to convert the building into a single residence.

This application failed to find favour with council planning officers, who (contrary to last week's GEM report) recommended that it be turned down.

STOP PRESS!

AN airport access road scheme is not currently planned in the Vale, the Minister for Economy and Transport, Ieuan Wyn Jones, revealed in the National Assembly yesterday (July 15).

Instead, there will be targeted road improvements, with Five Mile Lane included in the work.

Regional AM Andrew RT Davies told The GEM: "This will be a big relief for Vale communities that had this hanging over them, and is a credit to the campaigns they have fought."

See next week for more details on this story.

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Technical college: 'a false analogy'

WITH regard to the St Athan Defence Technical College (DTC) in last week's GEM, John Smith MP reiterates his comments, drawing a completely false analogy with Cardiff University.

The DTC is aimed at short-term courses for servicemen and women who are not officers. Indeed, a senior member of Metrix explained that the reason for the change in name from academy to technical college, was because of objections to the use of the term from officer-training establishments.

Furthermore, Mr Smith fails completely to explain why, at such a high-level training college, there is a need for a vastly-increased amount of shooting on a range and field training areas with ambush practice.

The amount of shooting proposed in the firing range will increase from approximately four hours per week at the present time, to five to eight hours per day with the new range.

This will continue to at least 11pm and will include machine gun fire, as well as light arms. It is predicted to amount to some 4,000 rounds per day.

The field training area will be used all day and every day and includes the use of gunfire (blanks) entailing 'typically up to 250 shots per day'.

It will also involve the use of other explosive devices, such as thunderflashes. It will include night exercises, which will be particularly disturbing when people are trying to sleep.

This will all be taking place in a mixed rural and residential area, resulting in inevitable disturbance of both livestock and local residents.

Professor Dafydd Stephens, Llanmaes

Remembering the skylarks

I WAS very interested in your correspondent Kathleen Woodfin of Barry's concerns about the possibility of disturbance of wildlife, when plans for the Waterfront come into operation.

I remember, years ago, when houses were built on Marine Drive and the green area at the top of the cliffs extending towards the houses was landscaped.

I walked there with my dog and we used to disturb skylarks which nested in the scrubby greenery.

I am also concerned about when the showground arrives on the Waterfront in front of Morrisons and all the scrub is flattened.

I have seen and heard skylarks over that area and there is nothing left when the 'circus' moves on.

I have concerns about the area of Cemetery Approach, and wonder if anyone has done a wildlife check on the glasshouses belonging to the council, which now lie in ruins.

I am sure, as they haven't been used for many years, that there must be a wide variety of birds and other creatures there!

Mrs DEC Herridge, Barry

TURN TO PAGE 8 FOR MORE READERS' LETTERS

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Readers' Letters

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COWBRIDGE HAS LOST ITS OLD WORLD CHARM

SOME years ago, during the debate regarding the pros and cons of Tesco's opening their store in Cowbridge High Street, I had no great view on the proposal.

However, if I had known then what mess there would be outside the shop, I would certainly have been opposed to its opening.

It's a constant source of litter, drink cans, bottles and waste food, left to accumulate in the covered area where children often sit.

Surely the Tesco staff should have a duty to clean up the mess, not only to keep up the company image, but also from a safety point of view?

Originally from a valleys town, but having lived in Cowbridge for more than 20 years, it has always been with a sense of pride that I lived here – and also with a deep feeling of regret after seeing the way in which the valleys towns have become increasingly run down.

Of course, litter is a problem throughout the country, because personal standards appear to have fallen so badly for many reasons – but that debate is for another day.

About 15-20 years ago, I would drive through Cowbridge late on a summer evening and have difficulty spotting a single piece of litter. Now, apart from the litter, I'm quite likely to have to take evasive action to avoid groups of pub-goers, often staggering, moving from pub to pub.

I'm sorry to have to say it, but Cowbridge has lost much of its clean, old world charm over the last few years.

Now I know that some younger readers of your paper might think this is just a moaning old man having a go at youngsters – and perhaps it is.

However, I know this; once standards are allowed to drop, there's no going back.

It's a shame.

M Carpenter, Cowbridge

Airport road access is definitely needed

I AM pleased to see that Ieuan Wyn Jones AM is to make a statement on the preferred Cardiff Airport access route.

All of the campaigners against particular routes are only concerned that it doesn't inconvenience them

The fact is that improved access is definitely needed, as anyone who has been stuck behind a slow-moving vehicle from Culverhouse Cross to the airport will testify.

In busy periods, there are very few places where it is safe to overtake and I can well understand frustration leading to road rage.

I hope, therefore, that one of the plans will be adopted and that this much-needed road improvement will go ahead.

Gordon Windridge, Penarth

What about the disabled?

ONCE again, it appears that there are plans in Cowbridge to create another project that will require intensive labour to achieve it – not to mention money.

This time, I am referring to the Old Hall Grounds. Why disturb a perfectly charming area, just to satisfy the whims of a few?

The Civic Garden was such a project; though that was a sensible project, and is a draw for visitors and even brought some level of fame to Cowbridge.

I notice, however, that it is the graceful ladies who are working hard to maintain it. The novelty has been short-lived for the men; they are now thin on the ground...

More attention should be paid to the needs of the disabled and the elderly – not just one section of the community.

Gordon Deaves, Cowbridge

St Athan needs a roundabout and not a set of traffic lights

WITH regard to the item concerning the St Athan/Gileston junction (The GEM, July 7) I agree a roundabout would be more suitable.

I understand two more junctions, with traffic lights, are to be created along this stretch of the B4265.

If this is correct, it will cause backlogs, frustration and add considerable time to journeys. (One only has to see how rapidly the traffic builds up at the notorious Tesco junction at Barry!).

It will cause disruption to bus schedules and make school runs by bus and car tiresome and lengthy. Roundabouts keep traffic flowing, are cheaper to maintain, and do not malfunction, causing chaos.

Coun Thomas remarks that it is difficult to argue with highway professionals. I feel that the knowledge and experience of regular users of a particular area should also have some weight when decisions are being made.

Professionals, like anyone else, can sometimes makes mistakes.

For example, who decided a one-way system, with traffic flowing UP Commercial Street in Llantwit Major, was correct when local people knew it would be preferable to drive DOWN Commercial Street? Thankfully, the decision was reversed!

Also, a dual lane approach at the Barry Tesco junction would have helped to speed up traffic, saved time and pollution.

So, let a right decision be made this time.

B Wilkins, Llantwit Major

HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL JULY 23)

The high tides listed in The GEM are those in Barry. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Porthcawl, the high point will be 15– 20 minutes earlier.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
16 Thur	00.55	12.7	13.16	12.4
17 Fri	01.53	12.3	14.21	12.3
18 Sat	03.05	12.2	15.42	12.3
19 Sun	04.28	12.5	16.57	12.9
20 Mon	05.41	13.2	18.03	13.6
21 Tues	06.48	13.8	19.05	14.2
22 Wed	07.46	14.4	19.59	14.8
23 Thur	08.41	15.0	21.02	15.2

USEFUL VALE INFORMATION

CRIMESTOPPERS 0800 555111
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COASTGUARD 01792 366534
FLOOD LINE 0845 9881188
HELPLINES
Alcohol and drugs:
Drinkline **0800 9178282**
National Drugs Helpline **0800 776600**
DASH **01656 650686**
SSAFA – Forces Help for serving and ex-service men, women and families **01656 785435**
RAF Association Welfare Officer 01495 249522/01446 740522
SAMARITANS (emotional support) **01656 662333**
VALE WOMEN'S AID 01446 744755
MENTAL DISTRESS
(Mental Health Matters) **01656 767045**
Mental Health Helpline:
Freephone **0800 132 737**
MIND in the Vale of Glamorgan
01446 730792 or www.mindinthevale.org.uk
CHILDLINE 0800 1111 - www.childline.org.uk
Rape Crisis Centre 08451 221331.
RSPCA 0300 123 0744. MIND 01446 746191.
AIDS helplines 0800 567123.
Child abuse – NSPCC 0800 800500.
Alcoholics Anonymous – (24 hours) 0845 7697555.
Drug Aid (24 hours) 02920 881000.
Inroads Drugs Project – 42, Holton Road, Barry. 01446 404040.
Vale Victim & Witness Support -
Barry Magistrates Court, Thompson Street, Barry CF63 4SX. 01446 730704.

MP & AM's SURGERY TIMES

To make a surgery appointment with John Smith MP, contact the constituency office (01446) 743769. Office hours are 9am-5pm. Answerphone service outside office hours.

To make a surgery appointment with Jane Hutt AM, contact the constituency office (01446) 740981. Office hours are 9am-5pm. Answerphone service outside office hours.

Citizens Advice: At 119 Broad Street, Barry. Office opening times vary throughout the week.Telephone 0845 120 3756 between 10am and noon for details). Further information on www.adviceguide.org.uk

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Police - Gladstone Road, Barry; for normal service 01446 734451; in emergency 999. Fire - South Wales Fire and Rescue Service, Pontyclun 01443 232000; in emergency 999. Coastguard - Regional Office, Swansea 01792 366534; in emergency 999.
Gas - Gas emergency number 0800 111999.
Electricity - Emergency 0800 0520400; Water - Emergency 0800 052 0130; supply 0800 0520130.
Trading Standards Consumer Advice Centre - Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry; hours of opening for telephone enquiries - Monday to Thursday, 8.30am-5pm; Friday 8.30am-4.30pm on 01446 709105. For personal visits, Monday to Thursday 9am-4.30pm. Friday 9am-4pm. Recycling Hotline - 02920 673000.
To report a fly tipping incident - 02920 673000.

HOSPITALS

The Barry Hospital - visiting 2pm-8pm each day, 01446 704000. Llandough - Wards have individual visiting times. For details call 029 2071 1711. Princess of Wales - 01656 752752/668090.
For Out Of Hours Chemists, call the Vale of Glamorgan Local Health Board on 02920 350600, or NHS Direct Wales on 0845 4647.

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Primary Cluster Links Orchestra holds a soirée for their Friends

ABOVE:
The PCLO orchestra with the Mayor and Mayoress of Cowbridge with Llanblethian.

PCLO – Primary Cluster Links Orchestra – which was launched last autumn, is already getting to be well known in the schools and in the community and has undertaken several performances in the area.

The inaugural PCLO and Friends soirée was held on July 7 at Cowbridge Sixth Form Hall where parents of the PCLO members enjoyed refreshments served by the comprehensive school's PTA.

The event was organised by Mrs Julie Williams (PCLO director) and Mrs Lizz Shaw (Community Focused Schools).

Guests of honour included the Mayor and Mayoress, Jon and Vi Harris, who sat alongside Mrs Evans, headteacher at Cowbridge Comprehensive School, Julie Thelwell, head of Middle School and Hilary Evans, head of Lower School.

Mr Colbourne, head of music, was also in attendance and accompanied some of the solo performances.

Coun Jon Harris drew the raffle at the close of the evening – proceeds of which will go to PCLO funds.

Thanks go to Mrs Val Harmer, compere, and to Alison Haden for her support on the evening. Mrs Shaw also thanked The GEM for its support of PCLO over the months.

The soirée presented a range of different musical items, as well as a tap dance by Lizzie Luke. PCLO performed pieces such as 'Men of Harlech', 'Walking on the Moon' and 'Rock Around the Clock'.

The soirée also included a range of duets and solo items, many of which were debut performances!

PCLO's youngest members, Dewi Williams and Bethan Upcott, from St David's School and Wick and Marcross school, respectively, performed a Chinese drum rhythm for the first time in public, with PCLO members singing the chorus.

The PCLO band brought a 'rock' element to the evening, with 'Buck Rogers' and 'Jonny Be Good', which went down very well with the audience!

PCLO meets every Tuesday (during term time), at Cowbridge Comprehensive School Lower Site, 4pm-5.30pm. PCLO is for Primary schools pupils and years 7-8 at Cowbridge Comprehensive School. There are spaces available for September.

Pupils and parents interested in joining PCLO, can contact Mrs Julie Williams at Cowbridge Comprehensive School on 01446 772311 or e-mail jwilliams@cowbridgecomprehensiveschool.co.uk

Alternatively, contact Lizz Shaw on 07592 510429 or email lshaw@cowbridgecomprehensiveschool.co.uk

Police appeal over crash

POLICE are appealing for information following a collision that occurred on Sunday, July 5, at approximately 3.15pm on the A4222 road from Ystradowen to Pontyclun.

They say it involved a gold/orange-coloured Vauxhall Corsa, which was travelling towards Ystradowen, and a silver Vauxhall Astra travelling towards Cowbridge.

Both drivers and a child from the Vauxhall Astra were conveyed to Royal Glamorgan Hospital as a result of the collision.

Officers are appealing to the occupants of a Mercedes motor vehicle, which was travelling towards Ystradowen and was overtaken by the Vauxhall Corsa, just prior to the collision, to contact them at the Eastern Roads Policing department by telephoning 101.

BEAVER SCOUTS SLEEPOVER IN A MONGOLIAN YURT

ABOVE: 1st Cowbridge Beaver Scouts.

IN glorious weather, the 1st Cowbridge Beaver Scouts held another sleep-over at their Scout Hall in a Mongolian yurt, hired from Coed Hills Rural Artspace.

The theme was frogs, and the children learnt about the life cycle of frogs, slept on 'lily-pads' and made beautiful pictures of frogs in a beaver pond.

They ate a 'healthy eating supper' of lasagne, salad, fruit and yoghurt, after which they had camp-fire singing, including 'Food, glorious food' and other songs from *Oliver*, which several were practising for their school's performance.

After enjoying a visit to the United Free Church Service at Ramoth, where the children were made most welcome, the Beavers collected wood, made a fire and cooked their sausages for lunch.

During the weekend, they also played football, played a Wide Game finding paper frogs in Mt. Ida woods and had a pillowfight to demolish some old pillows!

Gill Clay
(Leader)

Music helps cluster pupils make transition at Cowbridge

CAPTION?

THE Primary Cluster Links Orchestra (PCLO) held a transition day recently at Cowbridge Comprehensive School's lower site.

The PCLO day is an annual partnership between Cowbridge Comprehensive School's music department and Community Focused Schools. Mrs Julie Williams, PCLO director, guided the children through the music.

The transition day brings together pupils from the Cowbridge cluster primary schools (school years 4 - 6), and year-6 pupils outside of the Cowbridge cluster who will be attending the school in September.

Pupils in years 7 and 8 from the comprehensive school acted as mentors for each instrument and supported the younger pupils throughout the day.

In total, 46 pupils attended the PCLO day, ranging from school years 4 -8.

As part of the PCLO day, pupils were encouraged to mix and make new friends. Many pupils were in year-6 and will be going to Cowbridge Comprehensive School in September.

This helps to support the primary school pupils through the transition process of changing schools.

The PCLO day culminated in a mini-performance during which the pupils played new pieces they had learnt throughout the day. This incorporated a range of musical numbers, including 'Something Stupid' and 'Viva la Vida' by Coldplay, among other musical items!

Paul Fisher, headteacher at Llansannor Church in Wales Primary School, said: "*The children have been very enthusiastic about their day.*

"*They all really enjoyed the occasion and we look forward to the next time*!"

Ceri Thomas, headteacher at Wick and Marcross Primary School, said that the pupil who attended the PCLO day "*thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Diolch*."

LIZZ SHAW

VILLAGE LINK

A motor cycle ride to the Arctic Circle was the theme of two intrepid adventurers who came to St Cannas, Llangan, on July 8, to give an extremely interesting account of their adventure.

Mark Goulding and Simon Briscoe, both police officers, brought along film showing their extraordinary journey, which took them from south Wales through Europe, Scandinavia and Lapland.

There were many lonely miles encountering no-one but the occasional group of reindeer, which could become very aggressive. There were, of course, many interesting things which made up for the hardship they endured.

The intrepid adventurers did not charge a fee for their talk, but accepted donations for the y Bont Family Centre in Bridgend, which provides care and support for disabled and handicapped children.

Mark and Simon are now preparing for their next adventure – again for charity, when they will endeavour to ride across the Sahara desert.

Sadly, the number of villagers who supported this month's village link meeting numbered a mere dozen.

COMMUNITY NEWS

LLANBETHERY & LLANCARFAN
Your community correspondents are Sam & Patsie Smith on (01446) 751448

Village show

A REMINDER that the annual village show will take place on Saturday, August 22, at both the village and school halls.

There are classes to suit all ages, flowers, fruit and veg, baking, photography, crafts and painting – so there is plenty to choose from.

Please do get your entries ready and contact the show secretary Ann Ferris on 01446 781350.

Newsletter

CONGRATULATIONS to the new Llancarfan Society's newsletter team of Rhodri Grey and Ian Fell on the production of the streamlined and colour production; it certainly does make it easy reading.

Whist drive

THE next Llancarfan Society whist drive will take place on tuesday, July 28, at 7.30pm.

Admission is again £1, with prizes, a raffle and refreshments.l

COMMUNITY NEWS

TREOES, LLANGAN & ST MARY HILL
Your local correspondent is Nancy Davidge, 'Tynewydd', Llangan. Telephone (01656) 860303

ST MARY HILL Church 100 Club summer draw winners were: Peter the Postie, Mr C Jones, Miss Sian Harries, Mr R Howells, Jack Hall. The next draw will take place in September.

YOUNG At Heart Club members travelled by coach to the Highwayman Inn near Rhoose for lunch on July 9. A big thank you to Anne Ellis for arranging the trip.

Forthcoming attractions:

THE St Mary and Llangan Community Hall will be the venue for the Arts and Crafts (pirates), on July 23, from 2pm-4pm; Pottery Painting, July 30, from 2pm-4pm.

Overgrown trees

TREES in Elasto Lane, Llangan are in dire need of trimming back near the travellers' site. As a regular user of this road I will soon need to take along my scythe to cut my way through!

Greyhound welfare

THERE'S a chance to 'Meet the Greyhounds' with Greyhound Welfare on the streets outside Cowbridge Town Hall, between 11am-3pm, on Saturday, July 25.

We are holding a street collection to raise funds for ex-racing greyhounds prior to re-homing as well as meeting greyhounds and their owners, as people visit the town for Saturday shopping.

Details of all money raised will, as always, be provided to The GEM.

For further information, telephone 01446 750663.

John Richfield
(Volunteer helper)

These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.
John 16 v33 *(Cowbridge Christian Fellowship)*

ENTERPRISE WORKS FOR CHARITY AT COWBRIDGE COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

PHOTOGRAPHS BY MIKE WILCOCK (Report by Charlotte Tromans)

YEAR-9 pupils in Cowbridge Comprehensive School recently took part in Enterprise Week, which involved setting up their own businesses and giving the profits to charity.

The task was to spend the week working with pupils that you wouldn't necessarily spend time with, and come up with and make a selection of products to sell at a trade fair with year-8 students as customers.

The year-9 students were put into 14 groups, with 15 in each. In these groups they were told to designate roles including managing director, product manager, sales publicity manager, buyers and many other responsibilities needed in a successful business.

Students stuck to their roles for the whole week but also involved themselves in other tasks. At the end of each day, an employee of the day was chosen in each group.

He or she would be chosen for working hard during the day and taking part in the project.

On the first day, each team had to discuss what products they would make. Many had themes to their stalls such as the 'Purple Daze' stall which had a 'hippie' theme.

Once each team had chosen what they wanted to make, the buyers were sent out to Cowbridge and Bridgend to buy the raw materials needed.

A great variety of products were made by the teams. Some products included wristbands, smoothies, waffles, key rings and T- shirts.

On the second day (Tuesday) a candidate from each team attended an auction. At this auction, each person would bid for a place in the hall. During the week, the sales publicity manager for each team got to work making banners and posters for the stall.

The hard work and effort put into this merchandising was very prominent on the day of the trade fair and a prize was given to the team with the best stall.

The Mayor of Cowbridge with Llanblethian always attends the trade fair and this year was no exception. Coun Jon Harris arrived at the school an hour or so before the fair was due to begin and talked to two members of each team, who gave a speech on their products and the idea for their stall.

As well as the prize for the best design of the stall, a prize was given for the best stall theme and for the stall that earned the most.

The trade fair started at 11.15am and the hall was soon crowded with year-8 and year-9 students buying and selling their products.

The stalls went on for an hour and a half, and by the end most of the products had been sold. All money earned during the fair went to charity.

Most Attractive Trade Stall – The Dojo
Most Original Idea – Finish Line
Most Original Product – Part Snaps
Most Profit Made – First - The Dojo.
Second - Spectrum

ABOVE: Coun Jon Harris visits the 'Finish Line' stall. These students went on to take the 'most original idea' section.

Sports day at Y Bont Faen is a sunshine success!

Y BONT-FAEN school held its sports day in glorious weather as parents, relatives and friends cheered.

There was the customary thumb on the egg during several of the egg and spoon races, but no stewards enquiry was forthcoming. During the junior obstacle race the introduction of scooters was was a hit, and even the disintegration of a shopping trolley couldn't deter a commitment to victory.

The tug of war finales saw Tim Coch move into an unassailable lead, with Tim Melyn taking the silver, Tim Gwyrdd the bronze, and by no means least, Tim Glas completed this thoroughly fantastic morning.

Y Bont-Faen PTA provided refreshments and many parents contributed free cakes. A total of £81 was raised towards school funds.

Final thoughts go to long serving headteacher, Mrs Sue Dodds, who hosted her final sports day prior to her retirement at the end of term.

Diloch yn fawr a phob lwc at y dyfodol Mrs Dodds!

CD

The Llanfair Primary School's summer fete was great success!

PICTURES BY SHELLEY ROWLAND

THE summer fayre organised by the PTA at Llanfair Primary School, with the help of many volunteers, was a huge success, due to support from local firemen, the RAF Voluntary Band, Costco and the Army –when more than £900 was raised.

A school spokesperson said: "Everyone at Llanfair Primary School would like to take this opportunity to wish the year-6 pupils every success and good luck as they leave us at the end of term.

ABOVE: Taking a music break.

ABOVE: Eureka!

RIGHT: Three young pals smile for the camera.

ABOVE: Next customer, please!

Llanfair children swim to success in Vale gala

LAST Friday, children from Llanfair Primary School took part in the Vale Swimming Gala, where all of the children did very well and showed exceptional sportsmanship, cheering each other on in the races;. They brought back a total of 11 medals to Llanfair.

RESULTS

Bethany Burt, 2nd place 25m Girls Butterfly; Scott Ankin 3rd place 25m Boys breaststroke; Joanna Hannaby, 2nd place 25m Girls back stroke; Elliott MacNeil 2nd place 25m Boys front crawl; Ellie Bishop, 2nd place 25m Girls front crawl; Beckey Thomas, 3rd place 25m Girls Butterfly; Laurance Bowman, 3rd place 25m Boys novice; Hannah Mitchell, 2nd place 25m Girls novice.

Llanfair school won first place in the girls squad relay swum by Becky Thomas, Ellie Bishop and Bethany Burt.

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Cases in the Vale Magistrates Court

SAMUEL ANTHONY CAMILLERI (31) of Dyfnallt Road, Barry, admitted shoplifting two Braun hair straighteners to the value of £79.98 from Wilkinsons store in the town.

He was given a 12-month conditional discharge.

ANDREW MICHAEL DAVID SPURWAY (27) of Picketston Lane, St Athan, admitted damaging a kitchen window to the value of £50.

He was fined £65, told to pay £50 compensation and must pay £65 in prosecution costs.

JULIA AVAIENT (32) of Main Street, Barry, admitted shoplifting from Filco Foods in Llantwit Major and Superdrug and Somerfield in Barry.

She was already subject to a community order.

Magistrates ordered a four-month prison sentence suspended for 12 months. Within the 12 months she must complete a special programme.

She must also pay £65 prosecution costs.

TINA LOUISE MILLS (33) of Poets Field Road, Barry, admitted shoplifting from Superdrug and Somerfield in the town.

Magistrates ordered a two-month prison sentence suspended for 12 months. During the 12 months she must complete a special course.

She was also told to pay £65 prosecution costs.

MARTYN RICHARD JONES (35) of Manor Court, Ewenny, admitted 11 instances of making indecent photographs/pseudo-photographs of a child.

Magistrates made him subject to a community order, and he must attend the community sex offender groupwork programme.

The equipment is to be forfeited and destroyed.

He was told to pay £60 prosecution costs, and must register with the police for five years.

WAYNE ROBERT PRICE (27) of Holton Road, Barry, admitted stealing an ACER laptop computer.

He was given a community order and must complete 100 hours of unpaid work within 12 months.

He must pay £60 prosecution costs.

SHAYNE ANTHONY POWELL (28) of Pembroke Terrace, Penarth, admitted possessing a quantity of diamorphine, a Class A drug.

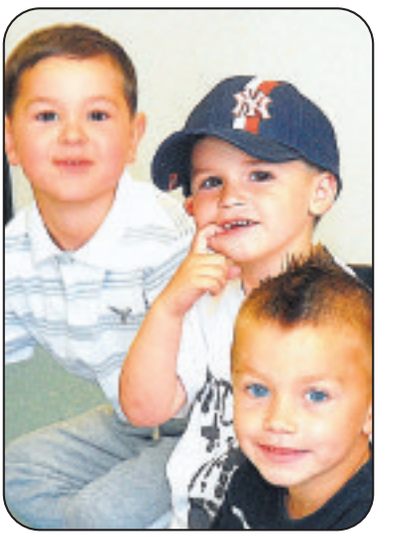
He was given a conditional discharge for 12 months, and the drugs will be destroyed.

Theatre Iolo delights Peterston nursery class with storytelling

THE nursery class at Peterston-super-Ely Church-in-Wales Primary School had a treat recently when two members of Theatre Iolo came to visit.

The pupils were enthralled by the stories they were told, and excited by the performances that were put on for them.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY IAN DIXON



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Bristol City Tour
FRIDAY JULY 17 Leave 10.30am back 5.30pm
FRIDAY JULY 31 Leave 10.30am back 5.30pm
Visit Clevedon £15. Or enjoy a spectacular cruise up River Avon & sail through the spectacular Avon Gorge and round Bristol's Historic Harbour & City Docks £23 SC £21. Or enjoy an open top Bus Tour of Bristol's historic sites – inclusive fare £29

3 RIVERS & 5 BRIDGES
Bristol City Tour
SATURDAY JULY 18 Leave 12.30pm back 7.30pm
SUNDAY AUG 2 Leave 1pm back 8.15pm
SUNDAY AUG 30 Leave 11.30am back 6.45pm
Visit Clevedon £15. Cruise on the River Avon sailing through the spectacular Avon Gorge and on the "calm waters" of Rivers Severn and Wye & sail under the spectacular Severn Bridges £25. Or enjoy an open top Bus Tour of Bristol's historic sites – inclusive fare £29

HOLM ISLANDS CRUISE
Aug 1 - Pirates & Princesses
SUNDAY JULY 19 Leave 1.15pm back 6.45pm
SATURDAY AUG 1 Leave 2.15pm back 4.15pm
On Jul 19 - Visit Clevedon £15. Sail round the Bristol Channel Islands of Steep Holm & Flat Holm – see the towering cliffs - seabirds & lighthouse £19 On Aug 1 - Cruise the Holm Islands & enjoy the Pirates & Princesses Cruise - special Fare Only £15! Children under 18 £7.50, Under 5s Travel Free! Children come dressed as Pirates & Princesses! Take part in the Treasure Hunt onboard – prizes for best dressed!

EXPLORE SOMERSET BY STEAM RAILWAY
MONDAY JULY 20 Leave 9.45am back 8.30pm
MONDAY AUG 3 Leave 9.15am back 8pm
THURSDAY AUG 20 Leave 9am back 7.45pm
Cruise to Clevedon and join the West Somerset Railway. Pick up a timetable on board and enjoy a day aboard the historic steam & diesel locomotives, exploring the countryside and stations along the 20mile railway. Cruise home from Minehead £35

SOMERSET HARBOURS • STEAM RAILWAY
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Lynton & Barnstaple Railway
TUESDAY JULY 21 Leave 9.45am back 9.30pm
TUESDAY AUG 4 Leave 9.45am back 9.30pm
Visit Ilfracombe £27 SC £25 Or view the Exmoor Coast & visit Lundy Island. Explore this enchanting National Trust Island with spectacular views, seabirds, Church of St. Helena & Marisco Tavern - Inclusive fare £39.95 Or enjoy a trip aboard the Lynton & Barnstaple narrow gauge Railway in North Devon & visit Lynmouth – inclusive fare £39

WATERMOUTH CASTLE FAMILY THEME PARK
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TUESDAY AUG 4 Leave 9.45am back 9.30pm
TUESDAY AUG 11 Leave 9.30am back 8pm
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ILFRACOMBE
Atlantic & Exmoor Coast
SATURDAY JULY 25 Leave 11.30am back 8pm
SUNDAY JULY 26 Leave 12.45pm back 8.30pm
SATURDAY AUG 8 & 22 Leave 11am back 8pm
Day trip to Glorious Devon - see the spectacular Exmoor Coast & visit the seaside at Ilfracombe £27 On Aug 9 you can stay aboard & enjoy the cruise westwards from Ilfracombe along Atlantic Coast £33 Seniors special fare on weekdays to Ilfracombe £25

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The GEM/Ferris Entertainment scholarship winner
Now Jemma has chance of award

FOLLOWING its premiere at the Cannes Film Festival in May, the film *Delusions*, which stars The GEM/Ferris Entertainment Scholarship winner for 2008 Jemma Birkett and other students of the Ferris Academy of Performing Arts in Penarth, is to be screened at two more prestigious film festivals.

It will be shown at London's Raindance Festival and at the Granada Film Festival in Spain where it has been entered in the competition section.

Jemma, aged 14, who lives in the Vale village of St Brides Major and attends the Cowbridge Comprehensive School, could soon be receiving international recognition.

Screen acting teacher Peter Ferris, who directed the film, explained: "There is a chance that Jemma might receive her first film award and walk up the red carpet at the film festival in Spain.

"That's not bad when you consider Jemma only started attending weekly Saturday classes when she won the GEM/Ferris Entertainment scholarship a year and a half ago.

"Jemma has excelled in her screen acting and audition technique training – so much so that she has just auditioned for a feature film produced by Ben Stiller and starring Michael Sheen, which is to be filmed in Wales later this year.

"Thanks to The GEM we have found a really talented actress in Jemma."

For anyone who has any ambition to try acting in Films, TV or Commercials or Singing or Dance, Ferris Entertainment are holding a four day summer school from Tuesday August 11-14 at The Conservative Club, Penarth. 11am - 5pm.

For more information or to book a place please call 08454 724 725 or email info@ferisentertainment.com

ABOVE: Jemma Birkett has starred in the film Delusions, which is being showcased at two international film festivals this summer.

St David's Polo Club turns on the style at Fonmon

POSH FROCKS AND HIGH HORSEMANSHIP ON SHOW

LET'S face it – the average person knows two things about polo...

First, Prince Charles is a keen participant, and second, there's that scene in *Pretty Woman* when Richard Gere shows Julia Roberts off to his rich friends.

It is fair to say that the St David's Polo Club meeting in Fonmon did confirm the odd stereotype – particularly with regard to the posh frocks on show.

However, spectators had a chance to appreciate the horsemanship of the players – and it gave newcomers a chance to learn more about a fascinating sport.

PHOTOS by GLYN EVANS

Other pictures are available from this event. Pictures can be purchased by contacting: e-mail glynevans01@tiscali.co.uk, telephone 01446 773225.

'Is tax-payers money being spent wisely?'

AN AM's APPEAL TO VALE COUNCIL OVER CONSULTANTS' COSTS

by TIM CHAPMAN

PLAID CYMRU AM Leanne Wood has launched a formal complaint over the Vale Council's refusal to provide full information on the costs of education consultants it employed, arguing that the public's 'right to know' outweighed the interests of the advisors.

The regional AM for South Wales Central hit out after the Vale council, while disclosing the £46,000 bill for employing two consultants in 2008-09, refused to say how many days each of them was employed, and what each of them was paid, citing "commercial interests of other parties".

Leanne Wood has now sent a letter to the authority outlining her case for the information to be published on how much education consultants Dewi Jones and Celia Butler were paid.

In the letter, Ms Wood registers an appeal against the council's refusal to supply information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

She says she wants to know the number of days each consultant worked for the council during 2008-09, and the total bill submitted by each consultant detailed separately.

She wrote: "In an e-mail sent on June 16 to a member of my staff, the council issued a refusal notice claiming release of the information was likely to prejudice the commercial interest of other parties.

"While the council has supplied details of the total paid to two education consultants, it has refused to break down those figures. I believe it is important that this information should be made available.

"It is important that people in the Vale are able to judge whether the use of consultants represents good value for money.

"Without that information broken down, it is impossible for taxpayers to do so. Certainly, in the current climate openness and transparency in the spending of public money is crucial, and that is something the public is right to expect.

"I am convinced that it is in the interests of the people of the Vale that the council provides the information requested.

"I believe it outweighs any commercial interests of a private contractor, and would point out that the local authority's duty is to the tax-payers of the Vale. I request that my appeal is upheld," concluded the letter.

Leanne Wood told The GEM: "I must say I was puzzled the council said that they refused to give out details of the costs of the consultants because the individuals objected.

"What about the public's right to know if taxpayers' money is being spent wisely?

"Their refusal to supply the information suggests it is not being spent well."

Peter Evans, monitoring officer for the council, said: "We can confirm that we are now in receipt of the Assembly Member's appeal.

"In this case, the information relates to the business interests of private individuals.

"The council does not have a free hand in this situation because the Act seeks to balance the right to information with the rights of individuals.

"Specifically, it contains exemptions from disclosure in relation to commercial information and personal information, and the council is required by law to adhere to these provisions.

"The council is obliged by law to have regard to the whole legislative regime in determining such requests.

"We note the Assembly Member's comments and the appeal will now be processed in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act and the Code of Practice."

Tenovus shop joins PACT

TENOVUS is the latest organisation to become a member of the Vale of Glamorgan Business PACT initiative, after its cancer charity store on Barry's Holton Road joined the organisation.

Business PACT involves local businesses and organisations distributing photographs and information concerning shoplifters or people who behave in an anti-social manner.

Business PACT coordinator for the Vale of Glamorgan, PCSO Rhiannon Harris, said: "In recent weeks we have seen increasing interest among organisations in joining up to Business PACT.

"The initiative is going from strength-to-strength and we are looking at ways of expanding it, to take in other areas with the Vale besides Barry and Culverhouse Cross.

"We welcome enquiries from other businesses across the Vale interested in joining the initiative."

Ms Jan Jones, manager of the store, said: "Being a part of Business PACT means we can share information between us and help prevent any criminal activity in our shop".

STREET SURGERY

VALE council members for the Gibbonsdown ward, Couns Rob Curtis and Margaret Wilkinson, will hold a street surgery in the St Catherine/Dale/Manorbier and Gatehold Close areas on Saturday, July 18, between 11am-12noon.

Dog owners who clean up after humans

THE letter in last week's GEM from Mrs Swift re camping on the meadow at Llantwit raises several further issues.

While everyone agrees that dogs should be kept under proper control, and that owners should clear up after them, the following should also be considered:

1) The dog ban was introduced on health and safety grounds, on the assumption that families with children don't have dogs; but a lot of families do, and are feeling increasingly marginalised and picked-on because they can't have a day out together.

Dog owners as a group are an easy target for council enforcement officers.

2) It's not just litter that campers leave behind – how many of them will be bothered to walk all the way to the toilets and back in the dark?

This is far more of a health threat to the children who will be playing there in the following few days – but, of course, this is ignored by the council.

3) Every evening during fine weather, groups of young people (roughly 14-24 years old) have barbecue and drinking sessions along the top of the beach, along the cliffs, and in nearby fields.

The council cleansing teams are not allowed onto the rocks or up the paths to clear up the broken glass and sharp metal.

Instead, it's the dog walkers who do it, many of whom bring carrier bags with them every morning for just this purpose.

I alone have picked up 60-70 glass bottles on the giant boulders in front of the cafe within the last month.

If dog walkers stopped doing this, within a month, access to the beach would become too dangerous to allow children anywhere near it – but, of course, this is ignored by the council.

4) Finally, if dogs are such a threat to health and safety, could someone please explain to me why, according to all available statistics, dog owners live longer and are healthier than non-dog owners?

But, of course, this is ignored by all politicians; political correctness rules again?

Davy Cartwright, Llantwit Major

THE COLUMN YOU WRITE

Readers' Letters

We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail. Letters and emails MUST include full address and a contact telephone number. An email address alone is not sufficient. We will (*in certain circumstances*), protect a writer's identity, if requested. Please keep your letters brief and address them to: The Editor, Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL.

'TURN THE CAUSEWAY INTO A PROMENADE'

THE opinions and ideas expanded by your correspondent Louise Reed in her letter published in last week's GEM, very much corresponds with my long-held ideas for the much-needed uplifting of Barry's attractions.

Unlike Ms Reed, my roots are in Barry – the home of my grandparents who lived at The Knap.

It is my father's birthplace and my children were raised here. Now our grandchildren love to visit from their home in Surrey.

I have often advocated that a new road and rail route across the wasteland below the existing raised railway would enable the Causeway to be turned into a Promenade.

This would enable a pedestrianised route to be established from Jackson's Bay to Porthkerry Park, via the Parade Gardens; all without any residential development. The Promenade could be designed to provide for the 'classy year-round destination' as described by our 'newcomer' to Barry.

Car parking for all visitors to The Causeway and The Island could be provided in the wasteland area where a railway terminal could also be established.

Also, the wasteland could be developed to encourage sporting activities, to include rugby and football.

I am sure that my grandfather, a Welsh rugby international player of more than a century ago, would approve.

As recently published in your 'Memories' feature of 50 years ago, he received a medal to commemorate the opening of the much-missed Knap Swimming Pool in 1926.

Any such grand improvements should include bringing back the stocks to shame and punish litter louts.

(Name and address supplied)

'Llantwit councillors appear ridiculous'

WHEN the likes of Mrs Heather March and Mrs Lorna Hughes were on Llantwit town council, it was conducted with dignity.

Now, every week in The GEM all we read about is petty bickering among the members.

" I*t's not my fault, it's hers... they should have done that... somebody else has egg on their face*." For goodness sake, the lot of you, get on with the job you are supposed to be doing!

You are starting to sound and look ridiculous.

Mrs EM Davies, Llantwit Major

Campers spoil the Colhugh valley

I AGREE with Mrs Swift's letter in last week's GEM, regarding the beautiful Colhugh valley and the way it is being spoilt by numerous tents and camper vans every weekend.

These people rarely respect the lovely peaceful countryside, and build their fires with boulders from the beach and wood cut and pulled from fences and trees.

There are no facilities for campers, such as toilets and showers. Why do we have to wait so long for action? It has been mentioned to the police and council many times.

I also am a regular dog walker and have to watch out for broken glass and discarded barbecues.

P Challenger, Llantwit Major

'WE MUST ALL TAKE PRIDE IN OUR TOWN'

I REFER to an article published in The GEM last week concerning the failure of the Vale Council cleansing department to clean up Llantwit Major after the Victorian fayre.

I wish to put the matter straight as the contents of the article infer that I questioned the integrity of Janet Moisan, one of the organisers of the fayre, which is absolutely untrue.

At a meeting of Llantwit Major Town Council on June 30, Coun Austin, who presided in the absence of the Mayor, expressed his concerns that the Vale Council had failed to respond to the organisers' request for extra waste bins and to start the clean-up after the fayre closed on the Saturday.

I told the meeting that I would check with the waste management department why this did not happen.

I contacted the Vale Council cleansing department and the operational manager, Clifford Parish, told me that no request had been made to him.

I then forwarded the reply to your reporter, who was about to report on the issue in The GEM.

It was only later in the week that the events officer of the Vale Council contacted me to tell me that there had been a breakdown in communications between the waste management department and herself over the clean-up operation.

My comments to your reporter always referred to "the organisers" not one individual and I did not "make an unwarranted attack" as claimed by Mrs Moisan.

In future, I suggest that the organisers contact one of the Vale councillors to follow up the requests to the council.

The question that needs to be asked, is why was all the rubbish spread around Llantwit Major in the first place?

There is no excuse for smashing plastic glasses around the memorial and leaving the town in such a mess; we need everyone to take pride in our town.

Finally, I wish to thank Mike Bibey our road sweeper and his colleagues from the Vale Council for doing an excellent job in the Sunday morning clean-up after the event.

Coun Gwyn John, Llantwit Major

FOOTNOTE:
The GEM article did not imply that Coun John had been critical of any individuals concerned, but merely reported comments that were made to our reporter.

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Vale MP says: 'No more tax exile cash for candidates'

Vale MP John Smith has challenged Alun Cairns, the Conservative parliamentary candidate for the Vale, to stop accepting donations from Lord Ashcroft, who is believed to be a tax exile.

At the 2005 general election, Mr Cairns and the Vale of Glamorgan Conservatives received £5,000 from Bearwood Corporate Services Ltd, a company owned by Lord Ashcroft, the Tories' biggest donor, whose tax status is unclear.

Mr Smith said this week: "I believe most people in the Vale would agree that parliamentary candidates like Alun Cairns should not accept donations from people who do not pay tax in the UK.

"I call on Alun Cairns and the Vale of Glamorgan Conservatives to make the commitment to the people of the Vale that they will not receive a single penny from tax exiles and from individuals who have failed to clarify their tax status."

The question of whether Lord Ashcroft pays tax in the UK has been hotly debated for several years.

In fact, in yesterday's edition (July 15) of The Daily Telegraph – not a Labour-supporting newspaper – it was reported that he must soon make clear whether he is a UK taxpayer, or be banned from bankrolling Conservative candidates.

Alun Cairns told The GEM: "The Conservatives receive financial support from hundreds of members in the Vale and from organisations and businesses across the UK.

"Of course, the Vale is a target seat and we will do all we can, within the law and within the spirit of the law, to bring about change.

"Candidates do have to compete with the thousands of pounds that sitting MPs receive by way of their Communication Allowance."

Headteacher retires (SEE PAGE 1)

Retiring Y Bont Faen Headteacher, Sue Dodd, is pictured with some of her pupils who are also leaving – to move on to comprehensive school.

Karaoke success for Y Bont Faen

Y BONT FAEN'S PTA has been particularly active this year and July 3 was quite a night in its calendar!

Members held a karaoke evening with a buffet and disco in the Duke of Wellington and everyone had a superb night, either singing or laughing!

The singing was started off by the chair of the PTA, Richard, who begged all the women to join him in singing 'I'm a Barbie Girl', to which they dutifully agreed!

It was encouraging to see so many new faces at the PTA events – one dad braved coming along on his own and also got up with two other men to sing – *good for you Dave Sims!*

Jeremy Hollings, husband of one of the teachers, sang Spandau Ballet's 'Gold', Tom Jones' 'Green, Green Grass of Home' and Elvis. Liz Lewis made a brilliant rendition of Tina Turner's 'Private Dancer' and Emma Hartman joined Mr Hollings in several duets and also joined anyone else that wasn't looking!

A new mum in nursery, Vicky Barker, obviously used to getting up and singing karaoke, sang several songs and then dragged up another friend, for stunning duets.

Cecilia Freeman *(or shall we call her Y Bont Faen's Duffy or Amy Winehouse?)* gave very good renditions, too.

Costco donated the wine for the evening and parents and staff made other donations for the raffle:

First prize, a bottle of Pimms, deservedly went to the singer Vicky Barker.

Thanks go to the Duke for the room hire and supplying a lovely buffet, and to the DJ (Declan from Total Sound Solutions).

The DJ donated £40 and Mrs Dodd donated £20 to go to the PTA funds.

A total of £426.60 was raised for the Y Bont Faen PTA fund and a fun night was had by all.

Well done everyone, and thank you again for your support.

KIM NICHOLAS

Junior tennis international Matthew heads for Florida

A COWBRIDGE Comprehensive School pupil, ranked number seven nationally in his age group, has just represented Great Britain in an international tournament and will fly out to Florida later in the year to compete in the world junior championships.

Matthew Kamal, aged 12, is currently the Welsh Champion for the 12 and under age group, and two years ago he won the UK nationals in Bournemouth for those aged 10 and under.

He told The GEM: "Last week I represented the UK in the annual Five Nations event in which we competed against teams from Sweden, Italy, Denmark and Croatia.

"I practice at the Welsh National Tennis Centre in Cardiff and I'm coached by the former Welsh number one player Chris Lewis, who until two years ago was competing on the international tennis circuit and was ranked in the world's top four hundred players."

With Wimbledon having just taken place, along with the traditional British agonising as to why we produce so few top class players, Matthew is a reminder of the hard work carried out at the grass roots level of the sport to bring through the stars of tomorrow.

LEFT: Later this year Matthew Kamal will travel to Florida to compete in the Orange Bowl Championships.

A month ago, while attending the national training camp at Roehampton in London, Matthew was among other members of the British team who were invited to practice against the number one doubles players in the world, the Brian Brothers, at Queens Tennis Club.

Matthew's has an all-action playing style as he explained: "I am a naturally aggressive base-liner, but I am keen to attack the net at the earliest opportunity."

In December, Matthew, who lives in the village of Miskin, plans to compete in the Orange Bowl Championships in Florida which is considered to be the world junior championships.

The GEM will report on Matthew's progress as the tennis season develops.

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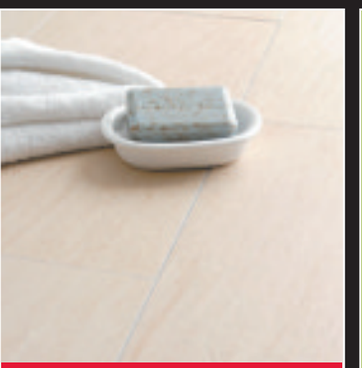

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Torchwood – above the police, but not in Sully!

JOHN Barrowman (Captain Jack Harkness of the BBC drama show *Torchwood)* opened Sully Primary School fete on July 4.

In the show, of course, Torchwood is "above the police", but he was not pulling rank when he met Acting Chief Supt Liane James and Chief Inspector Jay Dave!

On the police stand, he also met Sully's neighbourhood PCSO Surinder Taak and other local police officers.

Acting Chief Superintendent Liane James, said: "It is by meeting local residents in their own communities at events such as the Sully school fete that we can address their concerns and reassure them."

As well as providing crime prevention advice, the Neighbourhood Team also launched a new public reassurance game called 'Crime Countdown'. Children and parents were invited to guess how many sweets four jars held, but the number of sweets corresponded to the Vale's "positive crime reduction" messages, a spokesperson explained.

For example, one jar held 302 jelly beans, "the same amount of people saved from becoming a victim of crime as a result of the 12 per cent reduction in criminal damage in the area in the past five years".

There were also jars based on "reductions in autocrime, dwelling burglaries and crime overall".

The winner of the competition would be drawn at the end of July and announced on www.ourbobby.com, and then invited to tour police headquarters.

The tool kits for both the Vale of Glamorgan and Bridgend versions of Crime Countdown would be available for officers to use at school fetes and open days throughout the summer.

The police dog handling team were also on hand to demonstrate the role of police dogs in helping to find missing people and in arresting offenders.

Penarth neighbourhood officer PC Steve Gunney bravely volunteered to go into the stocks for 30 pence a shot!

John Barrowman meets Acting Chief Superintendent Liane James, PCSO Surinder Taak and PC Emma Mudie (on left) at the Sully school fete.

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Barry's Miss Wales hopeful in Joshua Foundation challenge

RIGHT: Max Glover, Robert Hogg, Georgina Giggs, Kathryn Lane and Craig Bowden teamed up against the other finalists in a scary challenge at a south Wales dive centre.

MISS WALES hopeful Georgina Giggs, from Barry recently joined other contestants from across Wales to scale new heights at Chepstow dive centre.

Georgina spent the day taking part in team-building exercises with fellow Miss Wales and Mister Wales hopefuls, in aid of The Joshua Foundation.

The Miss and Mister Wales finalists took part in The Joshua Foundation challenge day at the national diving and activity centre in Chepstow.

A total of 20 Miss Wales and 17 Mister Wales finalists spent the day abseiling, shelter building and knot tying.

Georgina said: "The day was a great opportunity for us to learn some new skills, have some fun, meet the other finalists and, most importantly, raise money for The Joshua Foundation".

The finalists were sponsored by family during the challenge day. All cash collected from sponsorship will go towards the total amount raised for The Joshua Foundation by this year's 90 Miss and Mister Wales finalists.

Sarah Cornelius, chief executive of The Joshua Foundation said: "The girls and boys have done a fantastic job fundraising this year, and we are extremely grateful for all their hard work over the past few months.

"We are only a little short of the £100,000 target for this year's competition, so every penny counts at the moment. If we reach the £100,000 goal, it will not only be a fantastic achievement for the finalists, it will also help to make a huge difference to the lives of children with cancer".

As part of this year's competition, the Miss Wales finalist who has raised the most money for The Joshua Foundation individually will be presented with the award for 'Beauty with a Purpose', by Julie Morley, chair of the Miss World Organisation, at the charity ball, being held at the Mercure Holland House tomorrow, July 17.

The final will be held at the Cardiff International Arena on Saturday, July 18.

NEWS FROM THE BARRY COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

Sri Lankan trip is the 'adventure of a lifetime'

New skipper

BARRY Comprehensive School Sixth Form student, Jordan Powell, is celebrating after he was selected as captain of the under-18 Great Britain roller hockey team.

Jordan will lead the 12-man squad in the world championships in Philadelphia later this month against some strong opposition including Australia, Canada, Mexico and, of course, the hosts USA.

Jordan is a seasoned campaigner, having been to the championships before in Edmonton, Canada and Detroit USA.

Jordan practises regularly and also plays for Cardiff Devils Ice Hockey Team. A talented sportsman, Jordan is tipped for further representative honours.

Snooker star

SNOOKER star Ryan Rowlands is practising hard at the moment.

He has been selected to represent Wales in an under-14 international snooker tournament in Carlow, Ireland.

Ryan, a year-7 pupil at Barry Comprehensive School, was selected after gaining points in qualifying tournaments throughout the country and achieved a top six place overall.

This is Ryan's first international and he is looking forward to travelling to Ireland with his team mates from all over Wales.

On his return, it will be back to the practice table, ready to start the qualifying tournaments in September.

Snooker star Ryan Rowlands.

The Sri Lanka party about to leave for the airport.

Great Britain roller hockey team captain, Jordan Powell.

The students get a taste of Sri Lankan cuisine thanks to catering manager Sharon Hutcheon.

Sri Lanka bound

BARRY Comprehensive School sixth form students were raring to go last week as they set off on an adventure of a lifetime.

Accompanied by geography department staff, Mr Prickett and Miss Allen, they have travelled to Sri Lanka to work for two weeks in our twin school, Maliyadewa Vidyalaya.

After a considerable amount of fundraising, and as a result of the generosity of the local community, the party were able to take a phenomenal amount of desperately needed equipment and resources for the school near Galle, in the south of the country.

Help and support will also be offered to a local orphanage whilst the party are in the area.

Among the many events held in school to raise money was a Sri Lankan Food Week in the school canteen, and a chocolate raffle that found several boys buying more and more tickets.

While in Sri Lanka, the party will be teaching classes and accompanying pupils on visits around the island.

It is hoped that it will be a life-changing experience for everyone involved and we look forward to hearing from them on their return.

AC

Ryan Stafford year-7 - Help Lanka chocolate raffle winner.

St Richard Gwyn pupils presented with merit awards

RIGHT: Top pupil Thresia James receives a Wii game and accessories from Mr Dave Short.

BELOW, right: Winner Mebin Abraham is cheered by his friends on winning the bike and helmet.

As the end of a successful school year approached, excited students at St Richard Gwyn Catholic High School crowded into a packed hall to hear who had won the behaviour and achievement prizes.

The pupils had gained merits throughout the year for working hard, contributing to school life and helping others.

"At St Richard Gwyn, we acknowledged the wide contribution to the life of our school community, not only by hard work in the classroom, but also in extra-curricular activities – where a diversity of talents and a positive attitude is rewarded," commented Mr Short, who organises the scheme.

Pictured here are just some of the hard-working pupils!

Four senior girls, Christy, Ceri, Katie and Aimee raised over £150 for Children in Need bag-packing at Tesco Stores, Barry – which they handed to Pudsey Bear at the end of a rewarding afternoon.

DINAS POWYS FAIRTRADE GROUP RAISES £2,500 FOR AFRICAN SCHOOL

THE Dinas Powys Fairtrade group stall was one of the 30 stalls at the recent HopetoGhana fun day at St Cyres School.

The group are working towards Fairtrade village status for Dinas Powys and about 500 people enjoyed the fun day which included performances by pupils of St Cyres, the excellent Murch Junior School choir and the popular Bethesda Community Choir.

Approximately £2,500 was raised on the day and the organisers have thanked all those who contributed, together with local businesses and groups who donated gifts.

All the money raised from this year's HopetoGhana fun day will go towards the target of £10,000 to build three new classrooms for a school in Ashaiman in Ghana, West Africa.

The HopetoGhana group have already sent £2,000 to the school, run by the Full Gospel International Church in Ashaiman. Building work on the new classrooms has started.

Also earlier this year, £2,000 was raised for the school by the HopetoGhana Sponsored Bike Ride on the Taff Trail.

LEFT: Two pupils wear their Ghanian flags with pride.

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MUNRO CUP DELIGHT – AT LAST! – FOR CADOXTON

AT last, a win for Cadoxton in the Munro Cup!

Cadoxton were at home to Barry Central and only the final run-in, which brought John Bergland's rink a draw against Kelvin Chedgzoy, saved the whitewash.

The home side had taken a 10-3 lead after seven ends, but only managed four more singles. The lead was lost for the first time on the penultimate end, and then a single brought it level.

Alan Carpenter's rink trailed 6-1, before a recovery started against Ted Hudd. The finish here was also close with a three on the penultimate drawing level and a shot on the last procuring the points.

The third rink, with skip Gary Jones competing against Alan Davies once again, brought a close finish when, with the scores level going into the last end, the home side edged it.

In contrast, with sufficient support from Dave, Syd and Les, Don Kuhnell, who was in superb form, relentlessly prevented the opposition, skipped by Don Parsons, from making headway. Only four ends were lost.

Rink scores: D Evans, S Pycroft, L Cundliffe, D Kuhnell 31-7; G Young, C Gray, J Bratcher, D Parsons.

B Knight, R Cole, L Davies, A Carpenter 15-14; G Davies, T White, H Spencer, E Hudd.

M Curtis, J Stewart, D Jones, G Jones 17-15 K Ford, I King, G Thomas, A Davies.

A Brown, W Vaughan, I Robertson, K Chedgzoy 13-13 H Kennedy, A Rockey, R Taylor, J Bergland.

Final score: 76-49.

CADOXTON A v SPLOTT PHOENIX

CADOXTON A side improved their league position with a win on all rinks when they played an away game against Splott Phoenix.

Alan Carpenter paved the way to this comprehensive victory with a convincing result on his rink. They were well on the way with a 22-10 lead after 16 ends.

Then, after a six on the next, the opposition capitulated completely and lost the remaining ends.

Graham Garland also had good success with his four by winning 15 of the ends. The advantage was 8-0 after four ends, which improved to 13-3, before a slight hiccup halted the charge with a single and three against. Nevertheless, they soon returned to the surge, conceding only two more ends.

The rink skipped by Barry Sales started well, but by the eighth end the scores were level. Scores of four, two and three put them back in the ascendancy, which they held until the end, despite a lapse on the final three ends, including a four.

The rink against Roy Harding were one player short, so were penalised to lose a quarter of their score. The game progressed with neither side taking a significant advantage.

In the closing stages, however, the home side had a winning run of three consecutive ends which opened up a five-shot advantage, but Cadoxton hit back by scoring four shots over the next three ends.

This left Splott needing four shots to draw the game after having the penalty deducted, but only two were obtained.

Rink scores: R Doble, D Evans, W Vaughan, A Carpenter 36-10; D Collard, I Robertson, G Davies, B Sales 26-12; B Knight, R Cole, J Stewart, R Harding 15-13; G Powell, L Little, M Curtis G Garland 29-11.

Total score: 106-46.

Friendlies

THE scheduled league match for Cadoxton was postponed due to the opponents still involved with the Carruthers, which takes priority – so a friendly match was arranged at Taffs Well.

On this occasion, with no importance on the result, the win went in favour of the home side. Kelvin Chedgzoy skipped the only successful Cadoxton rink.

Rink scores: A Brown, D Jones, D Tuck, G Brown 19-23; H Hellyar, I Dunbar A Hatcher, D Kuhnell 8-21; W Eadie, T Bishop, L Cundliffe, K Chedgzoy 19-15; L Davies, P Ellis, J Davies, G Jones 15-26.

On Sunday, a coachload travelled to Street, in Somerset, for the annual friendly fixture. The team was compiled from men, a few ladies and four guest players. The wives had an enjoyable day in the popular shopping centre while the game was played.

Two of the guests, Ceri Rossiter and Alan Rees, were on the rink skipped by Don Kuhnell, which came out on top in a close encounter which was tied at 12 each with four ends left, but the travellers won them all, including a four.

Les Cundliffe had guest Bertie Curtis as his lead, and although taking an early 8-3 lead, allowed the opposition to draw level at 9-9. At this stage a five and three opened up a gap and with two ends left, with a 12-shot lead, were favourites for the top rink. However a two and a five against spoilt their advantage.

The fourth guest, Viv Messer, was included in the rink skipped by 'Nunky' Brown. They struggled to get their game together and after 13 ends were trailing by nine shots.

A four lifted their spirits on the next, and although conceding a three immediately, more successes gave them a one-shot lead going into the last. A single made a draw at the end.

The Gary Jones rink also took until the 13th end to find any form, when they were 13 shots behind. A spirited recovery brought a period which included a five and three threes took them into a one-shot advantage, but the final two ends were lost.

Kelvin Chedgzoy skipped his rink against a triple and were blitzed in the opening five ends. On reflection, this slow start cost them the game as the difference of the other 16 ends went in their favour.

The rink skipped by Graham Garland also had the 13th end as the changing point. They were trailing by just two shots when a six, three and a five dramatically changed the outcome. Three last end wins were their only consolation.

Rink scores: B Curtis, P Ellis, L Davies, L Cundliffe 22-17; R Doble, V Messer, J Stewart, G Brown 20-20; C Rossiter, A Rees, G Davies, D Kuhnell 19-12; D Collard, Anne Jones, R Cole, K Chedgzoy 15-22; G Powell, D Evans, D Jones, G Garland 16-30; R Knight, Dianne Evans, M Curtis, G Jones 21-23.

Total score: 113-124.

NEWS FROM THE PENARTH AND DISTRICT RAMBLERS

Cefn Coed y Cymer – with its close-up view of the Beacons

Above Cefn Coed y Cymer.

RECENTLY, six walkers joined leader Barbara Palmer for a trip up to Cefn Coed y Cymer, just outside Merthyr Tydfil.

The Taff Fechan River rises in the Beacons and is controlled by the Pontsticill reservoir, while the Taff Fawr, which also rises in the Beacons, is controlled by the Llwyn Onn reservoir, and both rivers meet at Cefn Coed to form the River Taff.

Cefn Coed viaduct was erected in 1866 at a cost of £25,000 to carry the Brecon/Merthyr railway line over the Taff to Pontycapel.

Archaeologically, it is interesting because it was built on a curve and is the third-longest viaduct in Wales, with the last train passing across in 1964, after which it was closed.

On a hot sunny morning, they joined the track that led up to the Merthyr Tydfil golf and rugby clubs and, with very few golfers and only sheep for company, the group headed past a massive sink hole.

Being near one of the greens, it made them wonder how many golf balls had been hit down there and lost forever!

They climbed uphill and the terrain became very rocky, with outcrops of limestone and clumps of wild flowers, to reach Cefn Cil Sanws, managed by the Brecknock Wildlife Trust as a nature reserve.

Reaching the trig point at 460-metres, they were glad of the cooling gentle breeze and stopped for morning coffee.

Then, moving on through an area of sink holes and stream beds, many of them dry, the group headed up to the Garn Ddu ridge, where underfoot the ground became rough grassland and the going more difficult.

On the ridge the pathway improved and the group made their way to the forest, enjoying views of the central Beacons, while being watched by a herd of wild ponies with their young foals.

Stopping for lunch by the river, they were entertained by a group of youngsters who were abseiling off the bridge.

Refreshed and with easy tracks before them, the group reached Pontsticill and made their way to Vaynor, derived from the Welsh Van – meaning lofty of high.

A short break for liquid refreshment was made in the churchyard – the original church dates back to the 6th century but was burnt down during a battle; its replacement became very dilapidated by 1867, so was replaced and paid for by Robert Thompson Crawshay and is dedicated to St Gwynno.

Robert Crawshay, known as the 'Iron King' is buried in the churchyard under a huge piece of stone with 'God Forgive Me' etched upon it.

There are various suggestions as to the meaning of the inscription, one being the fact that this iron master was responsible for closing the Cyfarthfa works and making hundreds of his employees destitute.

Another was the way he treated his family; apparently he used to summon his daughter by blowing a whistle (similar to Captain Von Trapp in the *Sound of Music*) but it would appear many Victorian gravestones held the same wording or similar.

The house opposite the church began as a tithe barn in the 12/13th century before being used as a courtroom for visiting justices, and later a tavern.

A path led them to the road and the final stretch of their journey was made along the Taff Trail. While being kind to tired legs, this part of the trail is very uninteresting, so the group were glad to return to their cars for the journey home.

On July 11, meet at 9am at Cogan Leisure Centre for a 10-mile moderate walk at Clytha Park and Raglan; contact Val/Terry on 029 2059 5791/029 2070 6315.

On July 12, meet at 9am at Cogan for an 11-mile moderate walk in the Trellech area; contact Nick on 01446 420540.

Wear suitable clothing, preferably boots and carry waterproofs, food and drinks. Some degree of fitness is required and if you are in any doubt, then please contact the walk leader for advice. For other groups' walk log onto www.ramblers.org.uk

Rucksack badges, programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 029 2021 9102.

JOY STRANGWARD

Rhoose car boot

RHOOSE Community Hall Association will be holding a car boot sale on Saturday, July 18, from 10am-12noon.

Charge per car is £5 and all funds raised will go towards hall improvements. Light refreshments will be provided by members of the committee at a modest cost.

Valeways summer walks

Valeways 60-90 minutes summer walks:

Sunday, July 19, 2.30pm, **Highlight and Porthkerry Millennium Trail (part 2)**, from Highlight Community Centre (behind Tesco), Barry. *Contact Ruth 07800 969157.*

Monday, July 20, 7pm, ***Penllyn Castle Circular*****, Red Fox Inn, Penllyne (nr Cowbridge).** *Contact Val 01446 730707.*

Cream teas at Gileston

THERE will be a cream tea at Gileston Manor Gardens, Gileston Village, on Saturday, July 25.

The event runs from 2pm-4.30pm, £2 entrance fee (includes strip of raffle tickets) to Manor Grounds, Gardens and St Giles Church.

Cake stall, plant stall, book stall and raffle.

Cream teas available £3 per person. Proceeds in aid of church funds.

THE SIX BELLS, PENMARK

CELEBRATES ITS 1ST ANNIVERSARY

A visit to The Six Bells in village of Penmark is 'like rediscovering an old friend'

Words by TIM CHAPMAN
Photos by GLYN EVANS

ABOVE: Kyle Williams pulling a pint!

ABOVE LEFT: Two of The Six Bells' partners, Julie and James, welcomed family, friends and regulars to the celebration evening.

ABOVE: Family and friends attended the first anniversary celebrations.

THE Six Bells Pub and Restaurant in Penmark last Friday celebrated its first anniversary under new management – which has seen a remarkable surge in its popularity.

The pub nestles in the Vale countryside between Barry and Llantwit Major, and was taken over a year ago by three friends – James Barnsley, Taran Pryce-Jones and Julie Hawkins – who had a vision of returning the pub to its former glory.

James said: "Julie labelled our first year 'team turnaround' and that is what we've done.

"The aim of our second year is to build on the new consistency and reputation."

The three partners each have complementary skills, which have contributed to The Six Bells' new-found success.

James explained: "Taran was instrumental in setting things up, dealing with all the health and safety and legal issues.

"Julie's enthusiasm is infectious – she started off thinking she was going to be behind the bar like Bet Lynch for a week or two, and has ended up not being able to get enough of the place!"

"I carry out the day-to-day running of the business."

The Six Bells had suffered from more than a decade of management changes that would have made even a struggling Premiership football club blink.

"There had been 11 landlords in 11 years – but the most affectionate memories people have of The Six Bells were the days of Don Hall, more than a decade ago.

"Don was known all over the Vale and when we took over we put up his picture on the wall — we'd found it in the attic! When people come in they say: 'It's lovely to see Don's picture'.

"What the pub needed was some TLC and, with the refurbishment in the last 12 months that's what we've done."

The Six Bells dates back to the 1500s and it is now a mixture of the traditional and modern; oak beams and fireplaces in the bar and lounge blend with a bright décor and contemporary feel.

The menu is comprehensive and covers starters, a grill selection, a mouth-watering 'pub favourites section'– with offerings including 'beer battered fish of the day', 'goats cheese and red onion tartlet' and 'mushroom and baby corn stroganoff'; an array of chef's signature dishes, along with very reasonably priced 'lunchtime light bites'; and baguettes and paninis for people wanting a quick lunch.

James said: "Our strategy has been to offer top quality food at reasonable prices. We have meal deals that start at two courses for just £10, and a two-course Sunday lunch is £10. 95.

"We've got a really knowledgeable kitchen brigade – as we call them – led by our head chef, David Aston.

"They have previous experience in Gilbys and Egerton Grey.

"Where possible, we source our produce locally, and our meat is all from Wales."

James acknowledges that much of the success of the last 12 months has been due to the response of villagers.

"I can't fault the support of the village. They have seen the efforts we've made and have responded by bringing along family and friends.

"We've played our part by getting involved in local events, such as the music festival last September, and the National Gardens Scheme day last month.

"We put on burgers, hotdogs and drinks outside the pub and the village put on a minibus to ferry people to the gardens that were open – it was a great day."

With the Parish Church of Penmark literally yards away from The Six Bells, it's worth remembering that apart from the lounge, bar and dining room, there is also a function room which can cater for weddings, business meetings and corporate events.

The Vale Council recently agreed to put up a 'Six Bells' sign for customers driving in the direction of Barry, and the partners hope one might be added on the other side of the road in due course – but for prospective clients, the rule is: *head for the village of Penmark and you can't miss The Six Bells!*

"We are getting more and more trade from the airport and, as our reputation has spread.

"We've had people come from as far away as Newport to the east and Swansea to the west."

On July 10, the partners and staff and their families and friends, along with Penmark villagers, gathered to celebrate a first year of real achievement.

James added: "We think a visit to The Six Bells is rather like rediscovering an old friend."

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NEWS IN AND OUT OF THE CLASSROOM AT YSGOL GYFUN BRO MORGANNWG

Olympian legend pays a visit

PUPILS and staff were excited to discover that Lord Sebastian Coe was coming to Barry to visit the 5x60 provision organised by the Vale within the school.

He met pupils and staff who were participating in the project and spent time watching popular activities such as dodgeball, five a side football, dance and table tennis. Year-7 pupil Iwan Mepham now has a claim to fame of having played a game of table tennis with a true sporting great.

School welcomes Indian visitors

THE school welcomed visitors from India to Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg as part of the UKIERI project.

On Wednesday morning, we were treated to a wonderful assembly for the visitors. Our new head boy and head girl stood in front of the audience of teachers and pupils from years 7 and 8 to present the highlights of school life to the visitors, the first of their many challenges as the new leaders of the sixth form!

During the assembly, there were many musical performances showcasing the pupils' talent by the junior choir, an excellent harp solo by Martha Holeyman, and a superb performance by the year-13 Music BTEC group.

As well as all this, the visitors enjoyed the two drama performances very much, especially the pupils' comparison of weddings in Wales and in India – very funny, I must say!

Traditional Welsh folk dancing followed the dramatic performances, and a display of Indian dancing by the pupils as well. To end the assembly, we had the honour of watching one of our visitors, Ms Priyanki Mondal, a music and dance teacher from New Delhi, perform an hypnotic traditional Indian dance for us.

After the assembly, the visiting teachers were able to oversee lessons in the school ranging from art to PE, and Miss Rhian Griffiths, who visited India with the project in April, said: "It's an excellent chance for our pupils to learn about India's culture, as well as a chance for pupils in India to learn about our traditions in Wales."

The pupils in the school are overjoyed with the visitors, relishing the chance to meet people of a completely different culture from halfway around the world, and we all hope they had a good time here as well.

(Ruth Pilcher year-12)

Congratulations to new head boy and head girl...

CONGRATULATIONS to Joseff Swain from Penarth and Sara Meredith from Cowbridge, who have been chosen as the new head boy and head girl.

Joe is the first former Penygarth pupil to be chosen to lead the sixth form since it was established three years ago, whereas Sara is following in the footsteps of two other Cowbridge girls, Miriam Isaac and Elin Jones in being nominated as head girl.

They have both already started their duties by addressing a group of teachers from India who visited the school as part of an UKIERI project last week.

They will be assisted throughout the year by deputy head boys Tom Walton and Huw Meredith, and deputy head girls Ruth Pilcher and Alex Briscombe.

Rugby boys move up to the Blues

SEVEN pupils from year-10, Tom Perry, Tiernan and Einan Scott, Jake Connelly, Joel Beavis, Zak Deere and Richard Pilcher have been chosen for the Cardiff Blues under-16 squad.

This honour is a fitting end to an outstanding season for Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg's rugby teams. We wish them every success.

Boxing champ!

IN Port Talbot, year-9 pupil Jamie Viscount was crowned Welsh under-40kg boxing champion for the second successive year.

Jamie has been boxing since he was 11 years old. He competed in Finland in May, representing Wales in the international boxing championships.

We are delighted to note that he was successful and he was crowned European champion. His elder brother Jonathan is equally talented at this sport, as he is also the current Welsh Champion.

Pupils prove that physics can be fun at the Urdd!

Four year-10 pupils, Megan Pudney, James Glaves, Tom Nugent and Dominic Griggs, were chosen to front a campaign during the Urdd Eisteddfod in Cardiff to demonstrate that 'physics is fun' by taking part in experiments to raise the profile of learning physics through the medium of Welsh.

It was an excellent opportunity for the pupils, and their work was highly commended by the Institute of Physics.

Golden oldies

MUSIC from the 70s and 80s resounded around the school hall recently as the year-13 music BTEC pupils performed acoustic and band versions of familiar songs in a concert which they had organised as part of their BTEC course.

The group's professionalism and magnificent talent were truly mind blowing. Such was the reception to the performance, the pupils will organise another concert so that others can enjoy and marvel at their talent.

Athletics teams look like champs!

THE athletics season is well under way and it has once again been an extremely successful season for Bro Morgannwg athletes.

We have county champions galore and recently both the middle boys and girls' team qualified for the Welsh Championships in Brecon on July 8.

Year-8 visit Storey Arms

YEAR-8 pupils have described their outdoor pursuit adventure to Storey Arms as an "incredible experience".

They thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to work as a team, and enjoy new and challenging open-air activities.

Young actor wins scholarship to drama college

CONGRATULATIONS to 18-year-old Dyfed Cynan, who has been awarded a prestigious scholarship worth £1,000 to assist him with his studies at the world renowned Central School of Speech and Drama.

Dyfed has been accepted to study drama at this celebrated college and recently won the Gethin Rhys Scholarship, which is awarded annually by Ysgol Glanaethwy from North Wales in memory of Gethin Rhys, a young member of Glanaethwy who died in an accident.

Dyfed impressed the judges hugely with his theatrical performance and interview in which he outlined his future aims in studying drama at higher level education.

Dyfed is a member of the National Youth Theatre of Wales and recently performed one of the main parts in the Urdd National Theatre Company's production of *Ffawd* in the Millennium Centre.

We wish him well in his future career as he is certainly a rising star of the theatrical world.

Ysgol Iolo Morganwg in Cowbridge is celebrating its 30th birthday

Welsh school waves the flag with pride!

THE Welsh medium school, which serves the western Vale including Llantwit Major, has marked its 30th anniversary with a series of events culminating in a grand concert involving every child staged at Ysgol Bro Morganwg in Barry.

Ysgol Iolo owes its origins to a very determined group of pioneering parents who wanted a Welsh medium school for their children.

One of those involved was Carys Whelan of St Hilary, who is still an active supporter of the school.

She recalled: "In the early 1970s, the only Welsh school in the area was in Barry, and we parents had to ferry our children there ourselves – there was no school transport.

"We started a campaign to get a Welsh school in Cowbridge and we began by knocking on doors in the town and surrounding villages to see if there was support. This was in 1973."

The shield winners in the Welsh book competition.

The old Glamorgan County Council told them that if they could get 10 children in the rising five age group, they would provide a teacher.

"Y Bont Faen was just moving out of its old school into new buildings being built behind," she said. "The old buildings were going to be empty, and we were told that a class could be set up in it, and would be run as part of Y Bont Faen under Miss Williams, who was the head of that school."

As it turned out, building work was delayed and the new Welsh class was actually staged in Maendy Junior School for six months until there was room for them in the old Bont Faen.

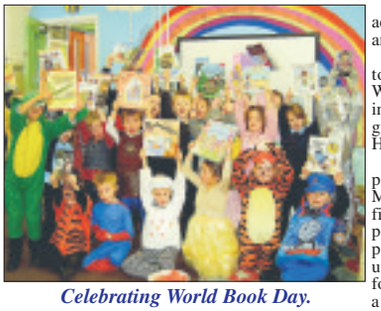
The education authority also agreed at the last minute to transfer children already at school in Barry to the new class.

"We had one class with children of all ages in it," she recalled. "They were taught by Mrs Ann Thomas."

A public meeting was held, attended by Gwilym Humphreys, head of Rhydfelen Comprehensive as well as Rachel Willams, head of the Welsh school in Barry.

"Everyone was very helpful and we had terrific support, especially from people in Llantwit Major," added Mrs Whelan.

After transferring to the old Bont Faen buildings, the Welsh class gradually grew. Initially, they were part of Y Bont Faen and the children shared assembly and had their meals all together.



Celebrating World Book Day.

A second class was added under Myra Phillips and then a third.

In 1979, it was decided to set up a fully-fledged Welsh school in the building and the name was suggested by parent John Hefin.

"I was chairman of the parents' association," said Mrs Whelan. "We had to finance all our own transport. The council did not put any buses on and we used to fund-raise to pay for buses and taxis. It was a big commitment."

The school started with three mixed age classes and the head was Mrs Glesni Whettleton, and then Catherine Watkin Hughes.

The story since then has been one of steady growth.

The present head is Dylan Evans, who started there in November 2007.

"We currently have 153 pupils, but in September we will have 196," he said. "That includes the nursery class. We work closely with the Cylch Meithrin in Cowbridge, which takes children from two and a half and then they come to us at three and a half."

The school raised £1,300 for the NSPCC.

Mr Evans said that the school was well supported by the entire community of the western Vale.

"About 30 per cent of our children come from Llantwit and I want people to know that we have free school transport these days," he said. "We also have terrific support from all the community in Cowbridge including the shop keepers. Parental involvement is tremendous."

Mr Evans said that parents were beginning to realise the advantages that speaking Welsh conferred on their children, even if they did not speak it themselves.

"There is a growing demand for Welsh medium education in this area and generally throughout the Vale," he said.

"It gives children an extra chance in life and learning a second language makes it easier to learn others as well. We teach French and Spanish here to our pupils from the age of five."

The school has achieved success in many different spheres and 95 per cent of its pupils leave having achieved Level 4 in all subjects including Welsh.

The school has strong cultural traditions and has always done well at the Urdd, winning a number of prizes at various eisteddfodau over the years.

Its choir won for three years running in its category at the main eisteddfod.

The school has also been awarded the green flag as an eco school.

"We have reorganised the curriculum in the past year or so to raise standards in maths and literacy," he added.

Mr Evans praised the governors for their support and said that the school has strong links with the library, church and chapel in Cowbridge.

They also collaborate with Y Bont Faen school which backs onto it and Mr Evans said he had enjoyed a good working relationship with outgoing head Sue Dodd and hoped to develop good links with the new head Meic Griffiths.

The school's choir has won three successive eisteddfodau.

The school is in the process of applying for Investors in People status and will work to renew the School Quality Mark in 2010.

"We will also be having a large focus on the more able and talented pupils to ensure that every child that comes to us develops his or her full potential," he added.

"Ysgol Iolo and its staff and pupils have acted as ambassadors for the Welsh language in the area for the past 30 years and I am very proud of our achievements. It is a very successful school and we intend to ensure that this goes on.

"The school will be full in September and we will have to look at the issues of accommodating growing numbers of pupils in the future."

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Llantwit annual schools bowling final day

LLANTWIT Bowls Club held its 15th annual schools bowls finals last Thursday.

Following coaching at Eagleswell, St Illtyds, and Llaniltud Fawr primary schools for the previous six weeks,16 children were selected to represent each school.

On a dullish morning, everything went as planned,with some parents attending to see their children in action.

There were many hard fought games between the schools on the four rinks.

The results were as follows: Llanitud Fawr 18 – St Illtyds 20; Llanilltud Fawr 27 – Eagleswell 11; Eagleswell 16 – St Illtyds 13.

Gold medal winners and shield holders were Llanilltud Fawr with 45 shots.

Silver medal winners were St Illtyds with 33 shots.

Bronze medal winners, Eagleswell with 27 shots.

Many thanks again to all the coaches and helpers for making it another successful event.

Pictures by HEATHER MARCH.

St Illtyd School team.

The Eagleswell School team.

ABOVE: The Llanilltud Fawr team.

Captains of Llanilltud Fawr team with the shield.

RIGHT: One young man demonstrates the perfect follow through.

BELOW: A future Welsh international?

New church group comes to Cowbridge – and it should 'refresh' its congregation

THROUGHOUT the summer, Brackla Tabernacle, a Bridgend-based church, will be hosting 'Re:Fresh', a series of four special events, which will be held in the gym in Cowbridge Comprehensive School to launch a new church community.

Brackla Tabernacle is one of Bridgend's largest churches, with more than 250 people in regular attendance and, for some years, it has been their intention to start a new church in the Vale.

One of the pastors of Brackla Tabernacle, Neil Harvey, has already been providing pastoral care to a number of young people in the rural Vale.

Neil has an incredible life-story. In 2003, he was sitting in a prison cell for alcohol and drug-related offences, when he called out to God to help him change and sort out the mess of his young life.

He became a Christian and has not looked back.

Neil has been completely and utterly changed. Having subsequently studied in theological colleges in Wales and Denmark, he is now part of the pastoral team at Brackla Tabernacle and has responsibility for Cornelly Community Church.

Neil has worked with young people for a number of years and has enjoyed the opportunity of working with other youngsters in the rural Vale.

It was this contact with Cowbridge, along with several church members already living in the area, which encouraged Brackla Tabernacle to look at the Vale as the place to start a new church community.

On July 19 at 5pm, the first of the 'Re:Fresh' events will take place in the gym at the Cowbridge Comprehensive School, which will be transformed from sports arena to church hall.

The event will last about 90 minutes and everyone is invited to attend and be part of this new venture.

There will be contemporary music, inspiring life-stories, and a chance to reflect on positive, practical messages for daily living.

The vision for the new church community is to "help people experience true refreshing through Jesus Christ, as well as providing a real sense of identity, and purpose".

Further events will take place at 5pm in the gym on August 16, September 20 and October 18. Admission is free and refreshments will be provided.

For more information about these events visit Brackla Tabernacle's website, www.bracklatabernacle.org, or contact the church office on 01656 650500.

Didn't we do well?

I HAVE just enjoyed one of the most exciting day's cricket ever, at the fifth day of the Ashes series.

It was not just because we were in the impressive new stadium, or that we achieved a most unlikely draw, after a forecast that it would be all over by lunch, or even the nail-biting last half hour, including a little unnecessary gamesmanship.

No, it was the warmth and greeting of every member of the staff, without exception, as we came in.

My son, a cricket enthusiast, who is staying with us, remarked that one doesn't get this reception at Lords.

While I appreciate that some of the other Test grounds felt slightly aggrieved that the Swalec stadium won the right to stage the first Ashes test, no-one who had experienced the smooth efficiency of the organisation and the good-natured generosity of all the officials, could have felt anything but pride and a renewed love of the glorious game

Basil Watkins,
Tredodridge

Llanmaes is top village again!

Photos by Heather March

LEFT: Excited Llanmaes, with cup held high.

BELOW: Second in the Primary section was St Nicholas School, seen with Mrs Barbara Hodges.

Llanmaes won the cup.

The competition judge, Mrs Anne Morgan, with committee chairman Basil Watkins.

Residents of Church Row, Pendoylan, who collected a prize for their delightful 'special feature'.

Proud winners of the Primary School Section – St Brides Major C in W School.

Wenvoe were close runners-up.

IT was standing room only in the Blacksmith's Arms at Llanmaes for the annual dinner and prizegiving for the Best Kept Village in the Vale last week.

The chairman, Basil Watkins, thanked the Vale Council, and local community councils, together with Cemex (UK) Ltd, for their generous financial support, without which the competition could not be held.

There was great applause when Mr Dave Goodman of Cemex announced continued support for this "worthwhile project".

The chief judge, Mrs Anne Morgan, immediate past High Sheriff of Mid Glamorgan, said community effort is an important factor in the attraction of our villages and added: "We are the custodians of a wonderful heritage here in the south Wales coastal region, that we should cherish for future generations."

Out of the five villages Mrs Morgan viewed, Pendoylan and Colwinston, although possessing some delightful features, were not felt to be up to the standard of the others.

There did not appear to be signs of consistent communal effort, for instance, in the churchyards and some uncut verges, hedges and individual gardens.

In Pendoylan, one outstanding example was Church Row, with its excellent gardens and stream, which had been transformed into a veritable oasis!

Ystradowen showed good evidence of community participation. A particular feature was the well maintained Millennium Garden, created by the WI, which provided a bright and cheerful welcome.

It is matched on the other side of the road, by rather splendid hedges and an area of well-kept gardens. The grass in the churchyard could have been cut better.

However, she was particularly impressed by the appearance and maintenance of the new sports pitch, situated to the rear of the churchyard.

The White Lion pub, with its floral display, was worthy of mention.

There is a well defined system of marking, which allow villages of different sizes and features to be compared on a fair and consistent basis.

In view of this, although worthy, on this occasion Ystradowen did not quite reach the standard of the last two villages and was awarded third prize.

Wenvoe and Llanmaes were of an extremely high standard and were difficult to compare.

Wenvoe is a large village of excellent appearance and the absence of litter over such a large area is to be commended.

The churchyards were well-kept and the pub surrounds tidy, as was the village shop.

The three halls were well-kept and the notice boards most informative, with a well-displayed map of local footpaths. Individual gardens were also good.

An excellent feature was the sanctuary adjacent to the war memorial.

One suggested improvement might be the siting of a seat in this area.

Llanmaes has a pleasing aspect whichever way one enters the village, and great care has been taken to ensure all areas are of uniformly high standard.

Care has been taken to preserve artefacts of past years. Again, there was a total lack of litter. All verges were well-mown and the bus shelter was immaculate.

The floral displays were most impressive. They ranged from hanging baskets at the village halls to pots on the pub roof – and even baskets outside the working farm.

The new play area is worthy of mention: impeccably laid and well maintained.

The jewel in the crown is the village green; turning what was a disaster area due to flooding, into a community area to be proud of.

The churchyard gained full marks. A cigarette end was spotted outside the church gate, Mrs Morgan mischievously observed.

The final choice for the first prize was not easy, but bearing in mind the tremendous work put in at both places, the chief judge narrowly awarded the number one position to Llanmaes.

The children's competition goes from strength to strength with 20 entries this year. These were judged by Mrs Mary Ponting, Rosamund Davies, Pam Robins and Mr Richard Skinner.

They were all very impressed with the enthusiasm with which the children tackled their projects.

These were all entries located outdoors and varied from plant and food growing, studying insects, composting, recycling and other environmental tasks. In some cases, the produce was eaten at school as part of their healthy eating programme.

RESULTS

Villages – First prize, Llanmaes, £500; Second, Wenvoe, £350; Third, Ystradowen, £250; Joint fourth, Colwinston £125; Joint fourth, Pendoylan, £125.

Schools Category A – First prize, St Brides Major C/W Primary, £200; Second, St Nicholas C/W Primary, £150; Third, Y Bont Faen Primary, £100; Special Merit, Oak Field Primary £50.

Schools Category B – First prize, Cadoxton Nursery, Barry, £150; Second, Y Bont Faen Nursery, Cowbridge, £100; Third, Cogan Nursery, Penarth,

Special feature – Church Row, Pendoylan.

First prize in the Nursery Section – Cadoxton Nursery, Barry.

NEWS FROM COWBRIDGE ROTARY CLUB

Excellent year for Rotarians' charity walk

APART from providing service to the community, the Rotary Club of Cowbridge aims to raise money and support worthy causes.

The last Rotary year (to June 2009) was above average in terms of money donated. This was mainly due to a large anonymous donation on the occasion of our celebrity dinner with Lord Howe.

Some of the club's charity income arises from social events for members, friends and guests.

Other income is from the magnificent support by the people of Cowbridge for activities such as: car boot sales, street collections, Santa's sleigh touring the area including attendance at Leekes store, charity quiz, reindeer parade, Child Line Cymru boxes and in town shops.

The club thanks the public of Cowbridge for its support. A summary of the donations made in the year is as follows:

British Heart Foundation £6,129; Rotary Foundation (Rotary's own charity) £2,682; Noah's Ark Appeal £2,500; Water Aid £1,000;

Marie Curie £ 750; Diabetes Wales £600; Rotary Youth Leadership Awards £550; Schools for all in Africa £500; Shelter Box Trust £500; Doctor Bank (Doctors working abroad) £500; Wales Air Ambulance £400; Cowbridge Monday Club £350; Sight Savers International (Boxes on table at meetings) £300;

Y Bont Respite Centre £250; LIFT Cancer Support Group £250; Childline CYMRU £200; Adopt a Minefield £200; Christian Lewis Trust £150; Sweatshirts for new Interact club £114; St Athan Voluntary Band £110; Various others £100 and under £1,292.

If you are interested in Rotary and would like to know more, contact the secretary of the Cowbridge club, Richard Griffiths on 01446 772248.

ANDREW LANE

Biomass power plant moves closer at Llynfi

PLANS to build a biomass power plant on the site of the old Llynfi Power Station have moved a step closer.

Permission was originally granted to Green Renewable Energy Ltd to develop the site in 2006; but it was subject to the developer entering into a Section 106 agreement with the council which required him to give £15,000 to the council, index linked, towards highway safety and traffic calming measures along the main road running through Coytrahen.

The application entails lorries travelling to the site transporting wood products and wood chip to power the plant.

Members of the Development Control Committee heard that the Section 106 agreement was now likely to be signed and the money provided.

Councillors agreed to change the terms so that the money can also be spent on improving highway safety lower down the valley at Tondu, as well as at Coytrahen.

This money has to be handed over before any work on creating the power station commences.

New Trading Standards chief

DAVID SANDERS, senior trading standards officer at the Vale Council, has been elected chairman of the Trading Standards Institute (TSI).

"The challenging financial climate we live in highlights growing levels of social deprivation. Accordingly, I will work to help shape future trading standards service delivery to keep it relevant to both consumers and business," he said.

LATEST NEWS FROM BRYNHILL GOLF CLUB LADIES SECTION

Keen competition marks the season so far for ladies

RESULTS for the season so far at Brynhill ladies section are as follows: Parkstone qualifier: winner, Rose Pitman, 72 nett; second, Carole Bumford, 73.

Australian Spoons: winner, Robbie Lee and Julie Morgan, 36 points; second, Olwen Thomas and Julie Harkin, 32 points. .

Jo Whitehouse Cup: winner, Helena Coombes, 35 points (over back six from (Glynis Gould).

GUW Centenary: winners, Lynda Lloyd and Liz Taylor, 40 points; second, Helena Coombes and Linda Hewlett with 39 points (over back six from Dianne Davis and Linda Gershenson).

Holland and Tattersall Cup: winners, Lynda Lloyd and Liz Taylor, 40 points; second, Helena Coombes and Linda Hewlett, 39 points.

Junior Golf Cup: winner, Helen Cook, 68 nett, second, Mo Whitworth, 73 nett.

Rabbits and Tigers: winner, Chris Hopkins and Olwen Thomas, 69 nett; second, Linda Hewlett and Anne Howells, 71 nett.

Lady Captain's prize: The weather was warm and sunny and there was a good turn out for this popular competition.

The ladies returned to the clubhouse in the evening for the presentation of the prizes by lady captain Jo Hopkins, and to toast the winners.

Silver winner, Rose Pitman, 37 points; **bronze winner,** Julie Harkin with a very creditable 41 points.

On July 4, Brynhill hosted their Ladies Open – a team event, with the ladies playing in threes, the best two scores on each hole to count.

The event proved to be extremely popular, with all the tee times filled, and many of the visitors most complimentary about the condition of the course.

Winning team (with a remarkable 96 points): Carole Allen, Lynne Bubbins and Leslie Sherrard.

Runners-up: Maria Gentile, her sister Helen Minto and Wendy Morton, 87 points; closely followed in **third place** by Jo Hopkins, Norma Phillips and Barbara Watkins on 86 points.

Individual winners: visitor, Jenny Young (St Athan) 42 points; Brynhill winner, Jo Hopkins, 44 points.

Nearest the pin on the third – Lynne Bubbins.

Nearest the line on the seventh – Lynne Perrott (St Athan).

JP

LEFT: ***The winning team in the ladies open meeting – lady captain Jo Hopkins (centre), Carole Allen, and Leslie Sherrard. (Missing from the line-up is Lynne Bubbins).***

ABOVE: Ladies captain's prize – silver winner, Rose Pitman.

ABOVE: ***Left to right: Helen Minto, Jo Hopkins, Lynne Perrott and Margaret Thomas.***

ABOVE: ***The ladies captain's bronze winner: left to right: lady captain and Julie Harkin.***

LEFT: ***Winner – Ladies open, Jenny Young (St Athan) with the lady captain.***

RIGHT: ***Runners-up, ladies open: Left to right: Maria Gentile; lady captain, Wendy Morton and Helen Minto.***

YACHT CLUB OPEN DAY

For anyone who has ever wanted to try sailing for the first time, or wanting to take to the helm again, or boat-owners seeking to join a club, Barry Yacht Club is holding its annual open day at 8.30am on Saturday, July 25.

The Club's members are offering the chance to set sail in the Bristol Channel on cruising yachts manned by experienced club members during the morning, followed by a free buffet lunch.

The club also offers dinghy sailing and training courses, as well as a variety of social events throughout the year.

It is based at The Pier Head Docks on Barry Island, Barry Yacht Club.

Caring Eagleswell pupils' bounce for The Gambia!

'Let the charitable bouncing commence!'

EAGLESWELL'S caring pupils recently organised a 'Sponsored Bounce' to raise money towards their project to help build a new well for the children of Brufut School in The Gambia. To date, the sponsored event has raised more than £1,000.

Two thousand pupils aged seven-16, attending the African school currently share a single worn-out hand pump, which delivers a trickle of water for all their daily needs .

Eagleswell's children are aiming to raise close to £5,000 to ensure The Gambian school obtains an adequate supply of fresh water. After a just over a year of fundraising, the children have collected more than £3,000 towards their goal .

Eagleswell would be delighted to hear from anyone who wishes to contribute to the project with fundraising ideas or spare cash! *(School telephone number 01446 792755).*

James Corden with two pupils.

MEETING GAVIN AND STACEY!

TWO Eagleswell pupils were lucky enough to be introduced to the cast of BBC's Gavin and Stacey, when they were filming the third series of the hit comedy on the beach at Jackson Bay, Barry.

Year-4 pupils, Samantha and Chloe were delighted to meet the stars of the show, along with the latest addition to the cast, Nessa's new baby boy!

KA

Luncheon club takes to the dance floor

MEMBERS of the Gibbonsdown and Court luncheon club were taken to St Donat's Art Centre on July 10 to take part in a tea dance with ballroom dancing.

The trip was arranged by the Gibbonsdown and Court Communities First team as a token of appreciation for the members' commitment to the luncheon club, which will be celebrating its first birthday in September.

ABOVE: ***The luncheon club.***

RIGHT: ***Two members take to the dancefloor as part of the tea dance event.***

Schools Out and About with The GEM

Youth Theatre brings days of American vaudeville to life

THE award-winning Bridgend Youth Theatre is presenting *Gypsy* at the Grand Pavilion, Porthcawl, from Thursday, July 23 to Saturday, July 25, at 7.30pm each evening.

The show is based on the memoirs of Gypsy Rose Lee, the famous burlesque stripper.

Directed by Roger Burnell, the show includes all seniors, and a selection of the younger members of Bridgend Youth Theatre.

It attempts to capture the vaudeville era, complete with dancing troupes within the world of 1920s burlesque theatre.

Featuring songs (by Jule Steyn and Stephen Sondheim) such as; 'Everything's Coming up Roses' and 'You Gotta have a Gimmick', and 'Some People' *Gypsy* is a touching, dramatic and funny piece of musical theatre with a long history on both stage and screen.

To book tickets contact the box office on: 01656 815995; or to book online go to www.grandpavilion.co.uk today.

Diverse summer for local gallery

THE Washington Gallery in Penarth, a registered not-for-profit charity, has events taking place throughout the summer.

Until July 24, there is a group exhibition 'Exposed – Bringing the Studio into the Gallery' by VOGA (Vale of Glamorgan Artists).

Fourteen members of the group are each showing a final finished work, alongside preparatory sketches and studies tracing the creative process from initial concept to final resolution.

There is an exhibition of relief prints and ceramics by Peter Raymond and Frankie Lock, from July 17-August 4.

Hand-printed relief prints by the Cardiff artist Peter Raymond will be placed alongside clay ceramics by Frankie Locke, inspired by natural wood and sea textures.

From September 8, the Washington Summer Show returns for its 12th season.

This is an eclectic mixture of emerging and established artists profiling Welsh talent.

Busy summer for youth centre

A LOCAL charity has plenty of activities on offer for young people over the summer holidays.

KPC Youth,which is based in Pyle, but intended for all young people in the Cynffig area, will be open daily, from 10am – 3pm daily for eight-to-12 year olds, and until 5 pm for over-13s.

Evening opening will be Monday, Wednesday and Friday 5.30pm – 8pm for eight-to-12s, and 8pm - 10pm for over-13s. Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5.30pm - 10pm for over-13s only.

Alison Mawby, the project manager at KPC, said: "KPC Youth offers a wide range of on-site activities, including a great outdoor skate park, bmx track, multi-sports court, adventure play area, a fantastic digilab with internet access, drum room, arts/crafts, pool, table tennis and lots more!"

She continued: "During the summer holidays, we hope to have a huge range of activities.

"These will include including: a trip to Oakwood by night; a photo/make-over session, a rap project, boxing, a fishing trip, a beach clean at Porthcawl, a trip to Swansea Swimming Pool, and many others."

She added: "More details will be available nearer the time, and some activities and trips are subject to funding."

The centre is next to Pil Primary School in Pyle, off Pyle Inn Way. Membership is £1.50, with daytime and evening sessions costing £1 per session for members, £1.50 for non-members.

KPC also operates a FREE minibus service which will run a return trip back to Cefn Cribwr and Cornelly on a Tuesday and Thursday night for over-13s throughout the summer.

For more information, call in at the centre, telephone 01656 745399/749219, or email: kpcyouth@hotmail.com

Margam Country Park

www.npt.gov.uk/margampark

Make Margam Park your hot spot for the Summer Holidays

Free Entry - Car park £3.50

Free family activities Tuesday, Wednesdays and Thursdays

Willow weaving, Storytelling, Art Workshops, Discover Reptile Sessions, Pond dipping, Magic and circus skills workshops.

Feed the farm animals with the Park Farmer on the farm trail every weekday at 12.00.

See website for dates of specific activities or give us a call.

New Family Bushcraft Event for Wales
Bank Holiday Monday - 31st August
'Wild Wales Bushcraft and Environment Day'
'Come along and discover the great outdoors'

Family 'have a go' bushcraft activities with Dryad, trade stands, talks, walks and stalls . . . all aimed towards a family audience.

Adults: £4.00 - Children/OAP: £3.00
www.npt.gov.uk/margampark
01639 881635

Neath Port Talbot
Castell-nedd Port Talbot

HOLIDAY CLUB
for children aged 3 - 14 years

We take children from all schools and areas during the holidays.

CLUB BASED IN SULLY
Tel. Debbie on
07712 591728
for further information

Come along and feed the animals at
Warren Mill

Farm Park - Lots of Animals!
Pendoylan - near Cowbridge

Come and see our rare and unusual breeds of farm animals – lambs, calfs, pigs and Spike the Llama, plus refreshments and children's play area.
Most animals can be hand fed.

New arrivals to meet...
New Zealand Kune Kune Pigs!

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Fontygary Leisure Park - Rhoose

Schools out – so why not come to Fontygary?

The wobstacle (huge bouncy castle) will be in the pool every Tuesday and Sunday between 11am - 1pm.

WOBSTACLE 11am - 1pm Every Sunday

The pool is fully supervised by our lifeguards from 11am every day (9am on Saturday/Sunday). Only £3 per swim (for everyone 4 and over).

Our resident childrens' entertainers The Krazy Khics, Helen and Cheryl, will be in the Bar on the Bay every Friday and Saturday night from 7.30pm with their own kind of zany humour - karaoke, party games, dancing, fancy dress in fact just pure mayhem! Mums and Dads can sit back watch whilst having a drink from the bar!

The public are most welcome to 'come on down' and experience all the fun - there is no charge for the childrens entertainment!!

Litbites cafe is open on a daily basis for snacks and meals - Sunday lunches are proving very popular (so are the breakfasts!).

LITE BITES Now Serving Sunday Lunch

So, come and see what the Fontygary has to offer - a warm welcome is extended to everyone!

Fontygary Leisure Park, Rhoose, Vale of Glamorgan
Telephone 01446 710386

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Academy of Performing Arts
Acting Agency FEA Management
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11TH - 14TH AUGUST 2009
11am-5pm The Conservative Club, PENARTH, 15 Stanwell Road, CF64 2EZ
Age 10-adult - Screen Acting, Audition Technique, Singing and Dance (prepare for the profession or just for fun); parents and friends showcase Friday 4pm.
Cost: £95 (discount for families)
to book call 08454 724 725 or 07801 493 133
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www.ferrisentertainment.com
Peter Ferris has been teaching for 23 years and some past students include Martine McCutcheon, Claire Sweeny, Claire Goose, Sheree Murphy, Russell Brand; some clients working this week include Stefan Puxon (21), Lead KFC Chef Commercial, Mitchel Thorngate (10), Skillicious CITV, Des O'Gorman(23) "Show Me The Funny" BBC N. Ireland

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www.adventurewales.co.uk

£22 per 45 mins £24.50 per hour

Wick playgroup's £5,000 cheque for their green work

ABERTHAW Power Station manager Clive Smith recently presented a cheque for £5,000 to Wick & District Playgroup, which has carried out extensive work on an ecological area in the adjacent churchyard.

It requested funding to extend this wildlife area and for the resurfacing of the car park, to ensure safer access for the children from the village hall where the Playgroup is based.

"The cost of the work will be £9,000, so we were very pleased to receive this generous donation," said playgroup leader Chrystine Thomas. "The hall is well used so many more people will benefit from the safer surface."

ABOVE: Station manager Clive Smith is pictured with Wick & District Playgroup staff and pupils.

'Follow doctor's rules' diabetes group is urged

AT the June meeting of the Vale of Glamorgan Group of Diabetes UK Cymru, Mr Dai Williams, director of Diabetes UK Cymru in Cardiff, told members that his previous job had been with BBC Radio Wales.

When an opportunity to work for Diabetes UK Cymru came, he took the challenge to make people more aware of the medical condition and how they could be helped.

He has linked up with DJ Chris Needs, who works for BBC Wales to help publicise the need for anyone who has diabetes to always 'follow the rules' set by their doctor or diabetes nurse to avoid complications which might develop.

At the end of his talk, Mr Williams answered questions put to him by his audience, followed by a vote of thanks by the group;s chairman.

The next meeting will be attended by a representative from Age Concern on Tuesday, July 21 in the board room at Llandough Hospital, Penarth at 7.30pm. New members welcome. There will be no meeting in August.

COHEN'S BRUNO IS NOT FOR THE FAINT OF HEART!

HAVING built a reputation as a comedian who hides beneath his characters, the success of Borat in 2006 made Sacha Baron Cohen a worldwide name, but the huge recognition the film received made further outings for the character highly unlikely.

For his latest film, Cohen returns to a character that made its debut alongside his other creations.

In *Bruno* (or to give it its full title, *Bruno: Delicious Journeys Through America for the Purpose of Making Heterosexual Males Visibly Uncomfortable in the Presence of a Gay Foreigner in a Mesh T-Shirt)*, Cohen portrays the titular character, a homosexual Austrian TV presenter.

He travels to America to make a documentary about fashion and becomes a celebrity; but much like Borat, placing the character in conservative America is a recipe for (comedic) disaster that highlights prejudices that otherwise are left unsaid...

Let's get this out of the way straight away – if you found Borat to be an unfunny film that failed to amuse you in any way, then steer well clear of *Bruno*.

Buy a ticket to *Fireflies in the Garden,* or something equally bland and avoid the near-the-knuckle humour offered by Sacha Baron Cohen's latest assault on the cinema.

However, if like me, you found *Borat* to be not just wildly funny but also incredibly clever, then you will get more of the same when buying a ticket for *Bruno*.

This isn't to say that *Bruno* is a film that builds upon the successes of Borat, because it doesn't quite manage that.

Following the latter's template of mixing in the realism with a narrative arc, the two films share almost identical beats (character comes to America with assistant, undergoes hard luck before redeeming himself in his own inimitable way having learned nothing) and its predilection for mocking and satirising merely raises the temperature of the film. It's certainly an '18' rated film for a reason, making Borat's perplexed outsider look tame in comparison.

But beneath the veneer of the incredibly bawdy comedy does lay an intelligence and cunning to make the people being interviewed look far more stupid than any character could.

It's something that Cohen achieves with a lot of commitment and dedication, and a thorough immersion in the character.

Determined to push people as far as he possibly can, here he winds up (among many) a minister who specialises in homosexual conversion, a terrorist leader, a Hollywood agent, the African-American audience of a TV chat show and, most impressively, an arena full of beer-swilling rednecks,who don't quite get the mano-a-mano action they were expecting.

Each comic sequence is well executed and Cohen's complicity in playing straight merely adds to the comedy and danger on show.

The comparisons to Peter Sellers, in terms of his ability to completely inhabit the character, are not ill-founded, although quite whether even Sellers would go to the extremes that Cohen puts himself through is questionable!

While there is no questioning the amount of laughs (and shocked silences) the film produces, its satirical targets are either overly familiar from the last Cohen outing, or all too familiar to the audience.

The interview segments are hilarious, but feel too similar to what the comedian was attempting in Borat.

The ability to shock is more pronounced, given some of the subject matter brushing against taboo issues, but it doesn't feel in any way different from what he has previously accomplished.

Likewise, Cohen's targeting of the worlds of fashion and celebrity raise laughs, but again feels somewhat overdone and over familiar.

It's easy to see why he preys on the unknowing public, rather than the denizens of those worlds for the majority of the film, because both he and director Larry Charles recognise that that is where they will mine the most laughs.

However, come the celeb-stuffed end credits, it seems that Cohen may not have been practising what he has spent the last 80 or so minutes preaching.

Despite these flaws, Bruno is still a hilarious film, but is more of a continuation of the Borat-style than a film within its own right.

VERDICT – Controversial, offensive, yet with a certain degree of intelligence behind its humour, Bruno will shock and make you laugh in equal measure.

While it sails a little too close to Borat in terms of style and content, there are more than enough laughs, and another game comedic turn from Sacha Baron Cohen, to commend it. *Recommended*.

SCREEN TALK

by GARETH JAMIESON

Out and About with The GEM

Choral society's charity concert

SINCE the charity concert held in April, when Barry Choral Society raised £150 for the Barry branch of NSPCC, the society has been feverishly rehearsing for its summer concert.

On Saturday evening, at 7.30pm in All Saints Church, the choir will perform Haydn's *Creation,* under the direction of Jo Herco Thomas and accompanied by the Festival Orchestra.

One aria for soprano soloist, *With verdure Clad*,will be sung by Sian Winstanley, who graduated from the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama on July 3 with a MMus degree with distinction.

Osian Rowlands, bass soloist, also a graduate from the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama, is manager of the BBC Chorus of Wales.

The tenor soloist is Gareth Treseder, another graduate of the Welsh College.

During the concert, a member of the audience will be presented with the programme prize of a summer hamper.

Delphine Garland, who recently retired from the choir, will be honoured as vice-president.

Delphine has been a committed member of the choir since its inception in 1968.

Tickets are available at Harmony Furnishings, High Street, choir members and at the door.

Sully painting group exhibition is a winner

AT Sully painting group's annual exhibition, held on June 19-20 in Sully, Pat Clifton was again a winner with this beautiful painting of Poppies (reproduced right) chosen by visitors as the one that appealed most to them.

Although many visitors praised the variety and standard of the paintings, sadly, sales were down on last year which means that the money raised for the group's two charities, Ty Hafan and Cancer Research, will be less than last year.

The group can be contacted on 02920 707553, or 02920 531262.

What's on IN BRIEF

Llandow summer fete

THE Llandow Village annual summer fete on Saturday, July 18, at 2pm, in Llandow Village Hall will be opened by BBC Wales presenter Lucy Owen.

There will also be a special appearance by Hanna Duck, from the children's television programme *Hanna's Helpline*.

"There will be plenty of stalls, competitions, games and races for children of all ages and their mums and dads.

"There will also be refreshments, music, a barbecue and licensed bar," said committee chair, Kay Walters.

Ty Hafan lottery draw

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan lottery draw number 574.

● **£2000:** 685944. ● **£500:** 592907. ● **£100:** 196475. ● **£50:** 724105. ● **£10:** 237201, 494256, 269998, 794573, 164621, 247285, 221573, 152812, 568160, 569567, 302731, 312280, 363084, 643796, 567321, 306003, 471856, 761412, 465651, 301790. ● **£5:** 307147, 548497, 395257, 846441, 898086, 422371, 417295, 190834, 729788, 615429, 705878, 874785, 343944, 420312, 131314, 517376, 877190, 302668, 617945, 316758, 372948, 574155, 517604, 365475, 275051, 892388, 115600, 307291, 587937, 248265.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

From only £1 per week, not only do you have the chance to win a share of the £3,000 weekly prize pot, but you are helping Ty Hafan to continue providing the much needed comfort, care and support to life-limited children, young people and their families.

For more information on Ty Hafan lottery and how to play, visit www.tyhafan.org/lottery or telephone 02920 672062.

Heritage Coast features in popular TV programme

THE popular BBC 2 TV programme, *Coast*, takes a look at the Heritage Coastline later this month.

Items in the episode include Hermione Cockburn discovering how American media mogul William Randolph Hearst, the inspiration for *Citizen Kane*, transformed a run-down castle (St Donats) on the Vale coast into a fabulous fun palace for the rich and famous.

The last family of 'mud-horse' fishermen reveal the fruits of a day's work on the Severn Estuary mud-flats, and a newcomer to *Coast,* champion surfer Renée Godfrey, swims with seals and searches out rare corals on the island of Lundy

However, given the episode's title '*Lands End to Porthcawl*', there will be mild disappointment in Porthcawl, because the producers have chosen to focus on a Bridgend story.

Neil Oliver will be exploring the site of the 'Welsh Great Escape' – when nearly 70 German prisoners of war were on the loose in the sand dunes after tunnelling out of the Island Farm prisoner of war camp.

The cameras will be sweeping along the coastline of the Vale and Bridgend county borough.

Coast: series four, episode three, goes out on Tuesday July 28, 8pm, BBC 2, 'Lands End to Porthcawl'.

Legoland ticket winners

THE winners of our recent competition to win a set of four tickets to Legoland Windsor were Grace Keepins of Broadlands and Mandy Gittinan of Rhoose.

Congratulations to you both, and keep reading for more great Glamorgan GEM competitions.

Llantwit Major
Art & Craft Group
Annual Exhibition
at Llantwit Major Old Town Hall
Saturday 18th to Saturday 25th July
Open 10am to 4pm (Sat/Sun); 10am to 2pm (Mon-Fri).
Entry Free - Light Refreshments available - Raffle

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Choose from a wide range of menus at affordable prices

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The Town Hall (Lesser Hall), Cowbridge
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1000s of books, 100s of titles.
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An Evening of Clairvoyance
with
Ann-Marie Rowlands
(CCHA Healing Practitioner)
Friday, 24th July 2009
Doors Open 7.30 pm - 8.00 pm start
DUKE OF WELLINGTON, COWBRIDGE
Tickets £8.50 (available behind bar)
or tel Vintage Events 07875 490170
You are welcome to bring a photo of a loved one, past or present, to aid connection.

VALE OF GLAMORGAN SHOW
Wednesday 19th August 2008
Fonmon Castle Park, Nr. Cardiff International Airport
- Katy Cropper - Duck & Dogs
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- Beekepers
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CHRISTIAN RAE
Fantastic Motown/Soul Singer
Plus Bingo - Food Served til 9pm
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Auditions start!
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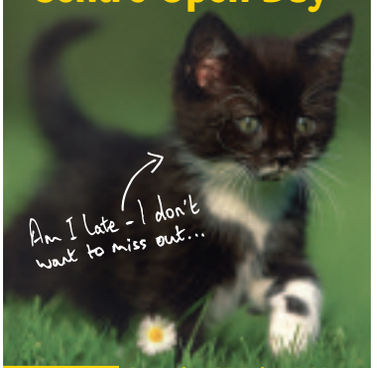


CATS PROTECTION
Saturday 25 July 10.30am - 4.00pm at Pant Hirwaun, Nr. Bryncethin, Bridgend
T: 01656 724396
Reg Charity 203644 (England and Wales) and SC037711 (Scotland)

VICAR'S SONS WHO PAID ULTIMATE PRICE

Dr Jonathan Hicks tells the moving story of two sons of a local minister who fell during the First World War.

IF one drives along the A48, takes the turnoff alongside the 'Old Post' and meanders along the delightful country lane for a few hundred yards, Carmel United Reform Church, which is currently up for sale, will appear on the left hand side.

In the churchyard of this delightful little church stands a headstone which tells a tragic story.

I visited this churchyard recently on a rain soaked day at the suggestion of a GEM reader, who rang me to ask whether I could find out what the story was behind the headstone.

I was delighted to be able to help and as the result of my research I pieced together the following facts.

The headstone commemorates the last resting place of the former minister of Carmel, the Reverend William Edgar Evans of the Manse, Llanbethery. But interestingly and intriguingly to any individual with an interest in military history, alongside the Reverend's name are those of two of his sons, both of whom were killed during the Great War of 1914-1918.

Owen Evans joined the army early in the war in 1914 and was posted to the 7th Battalion of the Royal Sussex Regiment, which was formed at Chichester on August 12, 1914 and attached to 36th Brigade in 12th (Eastern) Division. They moved to Shorncliffe in October 1914 and into billets in Folkestone in December 1914.

In March 1915, they moved to Ramillies Barracks in Aldershot, before being sent to France. They landed at Boulogne on June 1, 1915.

By June 18, 1916 the Division was based at Flesselles. It moved up to Baizieux on June 30 and reached Hencourt and Millencourt by 10am on July 1, in reserve to the British infantry attack that had begun earlier that morning – the first day of the Battle of the Somme.

It moved to relieve 8th Division, which had suffered a severe setback at Ovillers-la-Boisselle, during the night of July 1 to 2.

Ordered to continue the attack on Ovillers, 35th and 37th Brigades went in at 3.15am on July 2. Unlike the troops of 8th Division, who had to cross a wide no man's land in the bright morning sun, the 12th Division attack, at night, adopted sensible tactics of advancing across no man's land while the artillery bombarded the enemy and rushed the last few yards when it lifted.

The first wave of the attack met with mixed success: for example, the 9th Essex came under heavy shellfire before it had reached even the British front line.

It was difficult to keep direction in the deep shellholes; yet the 5th Berkshire and 7th Suffolk crossed, finding the enemy wire was well cut, and took at least two lines of German trenches before becoming bogged in intense bombing fights in the trenches. The 6th Queen's were held up by wire and machine gun fire from Mash Valley.

Heavy fire from the Leipzig salient - where X Corps would have been attacking - halted supporting units in no man's land, and the attack failed to achieve its objective.

On July 7, 36th Brigade, with 74th Brigade attached to the Division for the purpose, attacked again and in spite of heavy casualties from German artillery and machine guns in Mash Valley, succeeded in holding the first and second lines that they captured on the spur on which Ovillers stands.

By the time the Division was withdrawn to the area on Contay on July 9, 189 officers and 4,576 men had become casualties.

One of these casualties was Owen Evans, who was killed aged 24 and now lies in Ovillers Military Cemetery.

Owen had joined up along with his friend, David Rhys Davies. David was the son of Rees Davies of Llancarfan School and had been employed in the Barry Railway Goods Department. He joined the 11th Bn of the Rifle Brigade but was killed on October 3, 1915, aged 20.

He is commemorated on the Barry Railway Company Memorial at the side of the Docks Offices. He had lived at 35, Oxford Street in Barry.

The 11th Battalion was in trenches east of Laventie when they came under German artillery fire. For two hours the shells rained down on the men crouching in the trenches and dugouts.

As the war diary records: 'only one rifleman was wounded during the bombardment'. That was David Davies who died shortly afterwards.

Sadly for his parents, he was one of three of their sons to die during the war. Tudor Davies was 19 when he was killed on October 30, 1918, just 12 days before the armistice, whilst serving with the Machine Gun Corps. He is buried in Le Cateau Military Cemetery. His brother W Davies was a marine engineer who had died in December 1916.

Owen Evans's brother, Emrys Morgan Evans, joined up later in the war, perhaps as the result of conscription, which was initiated in 1916. He was posted initially to the Welsh Regiment and later to the 2nd/4th Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry.

He was killed aged 23 on September 12, 1918 in the fighting around Laventie and is commemorated on the Ploegsteert Memorial, as his body was never identified.

One intriguing possibility arises as the result of the actions which took place that day. The battalion had arrived at Laventie, south-west of Armentieres on September 11, 1918.

The enemy was holding the line called the Picantin - Junction Post and the battalion was ordered forward to attempt to hold an outpost line that was to the north-east of the town.

Headquarters was established in a former dressing station in Laventie, a house which had not been destroyed by enemy artillery.

Alfred Wilcox.

At a few hours notice and in weather calculated to make any operation a fiasco, on September 12, they attacked Junction Post, a grass-bound breastwork where the enemy was offering a stubborn resistance.

Though finally unsuccessful in result, the fighting, which was accompanied by driving storms of rain, produced two noteworthy incidents. Rowlerson, one of C Company's platoon commanders, after reaching the German trenches, somehow lost touch and was captured with several of his men.

In A Company an exploit was performed, which gained for the battalion its second Victoria Cross.

It was here that Lance Corporal Alfred Wilcox gained the Victoria Cross and the citation sums up perfectly the heroic action that took place: *For most conspicuous bravery and initiative in attack (near Laventie, France) when his company was held up by heavy and persistent machine-gun fire at close range.*

On his own initiative, with four men he rushed ahead to the nearest enemy gun, bombed it, killed the gunner, and put the gun out of action. Being then attacked by an enemy bombing party, Cpl Wilcox picked up enemy bombs and led his party against the next gun, finally capturing and destroying it.

Although left with only one man, he continued bombing and captured a third gun. He again bombed up the trench, captured a fourth gun, and then rejoined his platoon.

Cpl Wilcox displayed in this series of successful individual enterprises exceptional valour, judgment, and initiative.

Wilcox was wounded shortly afterwards and was in hospital in England when news of the award arrived. His deed lent lustre to a profitless attack. There is no way of knowing whether or not Emrys Evans was one of the men with Wilcox, but however he met his end, he was one of the unsung heroes of the Great War.

So, next time you are out for a drink or a meal at one of the pubs along the A48, set aside some time to pay your respects to two local lads who laid down their lives so that we can enjoy such privileges.

Young Vale athletes are in excellent form at all-rounders championship in Swansea

PROMISING Barry Comprehensive pupil Curtis Matthews enhanced his growing reputation with an accomplished series of performances at the 16th Welsh Schools Combined Events, which was held at the upgraded Swansea University athletics track.

It was at last year's championships in Carmarthen that he first made his mark – in the middle age group for pupils in years 10 and 11. At the end of four events, young Matthews headed the field by 40 points from Antoine Woodman (Dyfed). Woodman, a noted 400 metres runner, proved too strong in the last of the five events, the 800 metres, finishing seven seconds clear, an advantage which brought him victory by 70 points, while the Barry athlete totalled 2,679 in second place.

That defeat helped point Matthews in the right direction and, having now joined a combined events training group under top coach Mike Guest, it was a much better-prepared and conditioned athlete who made his debut in the senior age group.

Only three athletes started the competition, Mathews, Woodman, and Sam Booker (Llantwit), and the Barry year-12 made his intentions clear from the off. Always in command, he could only muster a points total of a 1,000 points for the first two events, the shot and javelin, for a lead of 200 points, but it was a different tale over the last three!

In the hot, sunny, almost windless conditions, a combination of a 100 metres in 11.88, followed by a new personal best of 6.63 metres in the long jump and a really gritty 1,500 metres in 4:45.28 added a further 2,000 points for a final score of 3,065 points, the gold medal for winning the event, and revenge over Woodman, who could only manage 2,583 for second place – and there was a bonus!

With Sam Booker starting the 1,500 metres and claiming the individual bronze, it meant that Cardiff & the Vale took the team award.

There was a second and unexpected Vale victory in the senior girls' section, another with only three entries, the Bro Morgannwg duo of year-12 students Leah Grisdale and Savannah Taylor, and Jessica Huddleston (Dyfed).

Before the start, Taylor admitted that she was not looking forward to the final event, the 800 metres. Thankfully, when it came to that event, she was a mere 12 points behind Huddleston in second place, and that proved to be the spark for a really spirited performance.

It was actually Grisdale who led the trio home in a time just under three minutes, with Taylor close behind, and the Dyfed athlete nearly 20 seconds back. The outcome was the same as for the senior boys. An overjoyed Taylor took individual gold, with Grisdale taking bronze, and the duo claiming the team plate.

There were two further medals, individual and team, for Vale boys in the middle and junior sections.

Cowbridge year-11 Oliver Trotman made his mark in the younger age groups through the winter sportshall programme, but he has struggled in the summer outdoor programme. Here, he may have just found his event, but it will take time and effort to make further progress.

After an opening 16.8 seconds run in the 100 metres hurdles in the middle boys' section, it was in the second event, the high jump, that he really made his mark. While other Vale athletes dropped out from 1.35 metres, Trotman went up and up and up, finishing as the event top scorer, his clearance of 1.83 metres earning 653 points.

After that, three steady performances in the long jump, shot and 800 metres proved good enough for a five event total of 2,498 points for third place overall and, with team-mate Jamaul Whyte (St Teilo's) winning the event, Cardiff & the Vale claimed a third team title.

The real surprise came in the junior boys' section. Mr John Patterson (Llantwit), the boys' team manager, knew that Matthew Roan (St Cyres) was a tidy high jumper but little else was expected. It is a delight to report that the year-9 pupil produced a series of new personal bests, including adding three centimetres to his high jump best with a 1.63 metres clearance, to absolutely demolish his previous pentathlon mark of 1,720 points.

His total was 2,328, a 600-point improvement, not quite enough to match the favourite, Matthew Davies (Dyfed, 2,445), but good enough for second place overall and, with team-mate Tom Bevan (Cardiff High) taking individual bronze, the duo also took team gold.

The Cardiff & the Vale team of 39 athletes was easily the largest and most successful of the six Welsh Schools district, which took part. All 15 of the Vale-based pupils who competed in that team can take pride in their performances. Results of Vale pupils: Senior Boys (SP, JT, 100, LJ, 1,500) – 1 Curtis Mathews Barry Comp 3,065 (11.62, 39.34, 11.88, 6.63, 4:45.28); 3 Sam Booker Llantwit 1,697 (9.31, 27.58, 12.42, 5.18, Dnf). Team: 1 Cardiff & the Vale 4,762.

Middle Boys (100H, HJ, LJ, SP, 1,500) – 3 Oliver Trotman Cowbridge 2,498 (16.8, 1.83, 5.05, 10.90, 2:22.15); 4 Tom Phillips Stanwell 2,325 (16.0, 1.68, 4.98, 9.59, 2:24.39); 5 Rhys Allin Cowbridge 2,165 (17.2, 1.38, 5.42, 7.76, 2:10.66); 8 James Glaves Bro Morgannwg 2087 (16.8, 1.68, 4.99, 9.13, 2:36.01); 11 Charlie Halpin St John's 1,856 (19.0, 1.35, 4.74, 7.69, 2:11.20); 13 Jake Connelly Bro Morgannwg 1,635 (19.6, 1.50, 4.82, 9.48, 2:43.92); 16 Richard Pilcher Bro Morgannwg 1,507 (19.7, 1.47, 4.40, 8.66, 2:41.31).

Team: 1 Cardiff & the Vale A 5,191.

Junior Boys (80H, SP, HJ, LJ, 800) – 2 Mathew Roan St Cyres 2,328 (13.26, 9.21, 1.63, 4.93, 2:19.61).

Team: 1 Dyfed 4,,702; 2 Cardiff & the Vale 4,644.

Senior Girls (SP, JT, 100, LJ, 800) – 1 Savannah Taylor Bro Morgannwg 2,065 (7.12, 20.68, 13.75, 4.35, 2:57.87); 3 Leah Grisdale Bro Morgannwg 1,723 (5.11, 10.67, 14.30, 4.52, 2:56.41).

Team: 1 Cardiff & the Vale 3,788.

Middle Girls (HJ, LJ, 80H, SP, 800) – 8 Ellie Carter Bryn Hafren 2,008 (1.29, 4.27, 14.25, 6.48, 2:57.18); 15 Natalie Parsons Llantwit 1,751 (1.32, 3.24, 13.90, 5.37, 3:00.20).

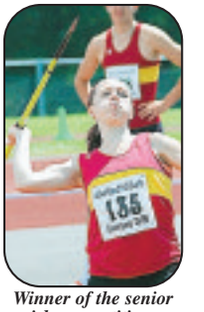
Team: 1 Cardiff & the Vale 4,927.

Junior Girls (LJ, 75H, SP, HJ, 800) – Chloe Phillips Llantwit (3.41, 13.81, 5.71).

The winning Cardiff & Vale middle boys team – Jamaul Whyte (St Teilo's) and Oliver Trotman (Cowbridge) after the presentation of the team medals and age group place. (Photo by Paul Trotman.)

Third of the five senior boys events. Curtis Matthews (Barry Comprehensive) leads from Antoine Woodman (Dyfed) and Sam Booker (Llantwit).

Good points from the 80m hurdles for Natalie Parsons (Llantwit) in the middle girls competition.



Winner of the senior girls competition – Savannah Taylor (Bro Morgannwg).

Report by PETER MORRIS
Photos by IAN DIXON

YOUNG FOOTBALLERS THANK THE SPONSORS

HIGH Street Harriers FC, players, friends, officials and supports have thanked British Gas and LaFarge for their sponsorship throughout the season. The team is now looking forward to junior football next season.

Vale women tackle the Cardiff 'Race for Life'

ABOVE:
Recently, 12 members and staff of Curves in Cowbridge (along with family members) tackled the 'Race for Life' in Cardiff.
Once again, it was an emotionally charged event. Aiming to raise more than £1,500 for the charity, the ladies split into three groups to run, jog and power walk the 5 km course.
The leading group headed by Carla Gore, one of Curves' motivating fitness instructors, completed the course in just 27 minutes.
Well done again ladies!

Rhws Primary pupils in sporting triumphs

RHWS Primary School has gone from strength to strength over the past term, participating successfully in a variety of sporting and creative activities.

The Rhws Primary netball teams participated in the Barry Junior Netball League, winning the A division of the league and narrowly missing out on the B division league title on goal difference, claiming the runners-up position.

The netball team were also successful winners of the Llantwit Cluster Interschools Netball Tournament, hosted by Wick and Marcross Primary School.

They even became winners of the Jean Broughton Memorial Tournament...amazing achievements!

Rhws Primary's football team regained the winners' trophy at the Llantwit Cluster Interschools sports event.

Pupils at Rhws Primary School have been enjoying an action-packed summer of sport,; not only achieving high heights with netball and football, but also competing in athletics, tennis, cricket and rugby tournaments and festivals. A sporting good time had by all!

KELSEY BIBEY

Rhws Primary School's netball team with their awards.

Local trainer's success

ON AND OFF THE TURF with Brian Lee

***ARTHUR'S EDGE*, a five-year-old bay gelding trained in the Vale by Bryn Palling and confidently ridden by Steve Drowne, made every post a winning one when landing the Crown at Celtic Manor Handicap at Chepstow last Friday at odds of 16-1.**

Arthur's Edge, who is owned by Mrs Annabelle Mason, won by one and a quarter lengths from *Ocean Transit*.

On Sunday at Southwell, the first two races went to horses trained in the Vale.

Llancarfan's Evan Williams saddled *Winchester Red* to win the Conditional Jockeys' Handicap Chase, and Aberthin's Tim Vaughan took the Toteswinger Maiden Chase with his six-year-old *House Of Bourbon*.

Winchester Red, ridden by Donal Fahy, came home 13 lengths ahead of *Oso Magic*.

The front running *House Of Bourbon*, ridden by Cowbridge's Deano Coleman, won by nine lengths from Snake Rave. Coleman did well to win, as he lost his irons when jumping the third last fence. Pembrokeshire's Peter Bowen kept the Welsh flag flying when taking the third race on the card with *Ripalong Boy*.

EVAN'S DOUBLE

LLANCARFAN trainer Evan Williams landed a double at Worcester last Wednesday with *Winchester Red* (5-1) in the novice handicap hurdle and *Postmaster* (13-8) in the novice chase.

Winchester Red, ridden by Donal Fahy, won by four lengths from *Particle* trained by Pembrokeshire's Peter Bowen and *Postmaster*, partnered by Paul Moloney, got home by half-a-length from the odds-on favourite *Mam Ratagan*.

Postmaster, which was Williams's 23rd winner of the season, was a winner of its previous race, but before then had run up a sequence of seven seconds.

Barry Air Cadets excel in athletics competition held at Leckwith track

LEFT:
Race winners – Ashley Williams, Jay Pitcock, Carl Chaplin and Rhys Thomas.

AIR Cadets from 372 (Barry) Squadron, recently participated in the Inter Squadron Athletics tournament, held at Leckwith Athletics Stadium with many outstanding performances.

With hundreds of Cadets from 20 squadrons, the competition and pride between squadrons was tough as everyone gave 100 per cent.

Several Cadets gave outstanding performances including: Carl Chaplin winning the 400 metres and long jump; Ashley Williams winning the 100 and 200 metres sprints; Rhys Thomas winning the shotput competition; and Jay Pitcock winning the 200 metres in his age category.

Jay Pitcock attempting the high jump.

These Cadets will now go on to represent No 1 Welsh Wing at RAF Cosford, for their excellent performances.

This excellent performance completes another outstanding sporting season, which has seen the Cadets participate in football, cross country, rugby, netball and hockey competitions.

The Cadets regularly attend sports/fitness sessions to improve their fitness and learn new sports and improve their skills.

The Cadets will now look forward to spending the summer undertaking flying, gliding, shooting, Duke of Edinburgh, summer camps, fieldcraft and team building exercises.

If you have a spirit for adventure, 372 Squadron has vacancies for boys and girls between 13-18 years old. The Squadron parade on Mondays and Wednesdays 7pm-9.30pm behind Adams Funeral Parlour (by the Memorial Hall); or contact the Squadron on 01446 747734; or email 372@aircadets.org

JH

BARRY WANDERERS SECONDS STROLL TO AN EASY WIN AGAINST NEWPORT XI

THE Barry Wanderers First XI took the short trip past the airport to Rhoose to be entertained by Sully Centurions Third outfit.

Stand in skipper Hassett asked the home side to bat on a good looking wicket, but with rain forecast it was a decent shout.

The Centurions didn't look like they would live up to their name as they were reeling at 29-4 off 10 overs, thanks to some tidy opening bowling from Neil Mantell (3-19) and the returning Andy Fenton (1-9).

Mother Nature came in at number seven and put in a resolute performance and saved the game for the home side, deluging the wicket.

The Second team played a Newport Fourth XI on Saturday at Hayes Point in a Welsh Conference Division Three contest.

With the weather looking rather uncertain for the start of the game, Wanderers captain Chris Barnes strode out to the middle with Newport skipper Dave Carter to toss the coin with the rain starting to fall.

Barnes won the toss and decided to bat.

Barnes and Dean Thomas opened for the home side and after one over, everybody scurried off to the sanctuary of the pavilion to shelter from the heavy rain.

The home captain was now wondering what he was thinking of batting first as the rain changed the pitch conditions to favour the bowlers.

Sure enough, as the two sides returned to the field after the adverse weather, Barnes was bowled by talented left arm spinner Andrew Davies without a run on the board with the ball barely leaving the pitch!

Luke Denning joined Thomas and soon found the going just as tough with tight bowling from Davies and Newport skipper Carter.

However, with only 14 scored off nine overs, Davies got one to lift outside off-stump to Denning and he was caught at slip for 10.

As mercurial Elwyn Toozer strode to the wicket in Tonto's expanding headband, the sun made it's first appearance.

Dean Thomas, still easing his way into his new club, found the batting conditions very different to that of the previous week when he made 50 glorious runs. It proved hard work when in the 19th over and with Davies in his final over, he carved the ball out to the fielder at point where he was caught for 16.

James Griffiths going three balls later again to Davies left Wanderers wobbling on 44-4.

Tom Ridgwell joined Toozer at the crease with the wicket now seemingly getting firmer in the sunshine, both batsmen taking time to get used to things out in the middle, Toozer pushing into spaces to keep the scoreboard ticking.

These two built up a more than useful partnership against the bowling of Jarvis and Watkins, until Toozer charged down the wicket to Newport's Matt Bryant in the 36th over and was stumped for a fine 47.

Ridgwell marched on to his second 50 for the club, hitting boundaries at will until bowled by Bryant late on for a fine 59.

A late flourish from Andy Furnham at the end with a quickfire 20 ensured Wanderers totalled 184 all out in the 44th over, Furnham being last man out.

Newport's Andrew Davies took 4-25 off his 10 overs and Matt Bryant 5-14.

The Newport innings started with John Rowlett and Howard Davies opening the batting with Wanderers Dave Morgan bowling at the 'Apartments' end for the first time in 10 years.

Indeed, both batsmen started well against the tight bowling of Morgan and Furnham, Rowlett in particular, cutting to the boundary until in the 13th over, with Newport on 34, Morgan bowled Davies for 12.

Morgan also bowled Keyse for a 'duck' and trapped Rowlett lbw for 21.

Newport were now getting behind any sort of run-rate.

Only Jason Bachelor with 28 and Andrew Davies with 22 produced any further resistance to the Wanderers bowling attack as Newport were bowled out for 128 in the 40th over giving Wanderers the victory by 56 runs.

Dave Morgan finished his 10 over spell with 3-22, Ashton 2-35 off his 10, and 15-year-old James Griffiths finishing his six over spell with 2-25.

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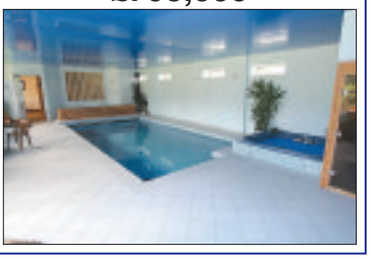

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Developments in Conservation Areas

Application No: 2009/00655/LBC
Proposal: Alteration of the existing kitchen to provide disabled wc facilities and a smaller storage area. Alterations of the large existing store to provide a kitchen with servery facilities into the main hall and alteration of the inoperative wc into a dry food store. Reinstatement of the external access to the gallery by opening up the blocked door
Location: All Saints Parish Hall, Victoria Square, Penarth
Conservation Area: Penarth

Application No: 2009/00680/CAC
Proposal: Take down and rebuild the external walls of the Coach House to implement Planning Permission 2008/01387/FUL
Location: 14, Westbourne Road, Penarth
Conservation Area: Penarth

Application No: 2009/00687/FUL
Proposal: Conservatory
Location: 3, Ivy Cottage, Rhoose Road, Rhoose
Conservation Area: Rhoose

Application No: 2009/00688/FUL
Proposal: Erection of a pigeon loft (Retrospective consent)
Location: 1, Old Port Road, Wenvoe
Conservation Area: Wenvoe

Application No: 2009/00690/FUL
Proposal: Construction of 1 no. detached dwelling with detached garage
Location: Land off Park Road (site of former Community Hall). Garden Suburb, Barry
Conservation Area: Barry (Garden Suburb)

Application No: 2009/00698/FUL
Proposal: Demolition of northern stone boundary wall, creation of new highway access into rebuilt and relocated stone boundary wall and creation of carparking hardstanding
Location: Great House, (Ty Mawr), A48, Bonvilston
Conservation Area: Bonvilston

Application No: 2009/00701/LBC
Proposal: Replace severely rotten wooden window in rear of Parish Hall with new hardwood window in Georgian style to match the front of the building; replace severely rotten wooden door and above window at rear of Parish Hall with hardwood replacement to match and locks to comply with Insurance requirements
Location: Parish Hall, Britway Road, Dinas Powys
Conservation Area: Dinas Powys

Conservation Area Consent

Application No: 2009/00680/CAC
Proposal: Take down and rebuild the external walls of the Coach House to implement Planning Permission 2008/01387/FUL
Location: 14, Westbourne Road, Penarth
Conservation Area: Penarth

Listed Building Consent

Application No: 2009/00642/LBC
Proposal: Variation of Condition 1 of planning permission 2004/00268/LBC - Development to be commenced within 5 years
Location: Batslays Farm, Higher End, St. Athan
Listed Building: Grade 2

Application No: 2009/00655/LBC
Proposal: Alteration of the existing kitchen to provide disabled wc facilities and a smaller storage area. Alterations of the large existing store to provide a kitchen with servery facilities into the main hall and alteration of the inoperative WC into a dry food store. Reinstatement of the external access to the gallery by opening up the blocked door
Location: All Saints Parish Hall, Victoria Square, Penarth
Listed Building: Grade II

Application No: 2009/00701/LBC
Proposal: Replace severely rotten wooden window in rear of Parish Hall with new hardwood window in Georgian style to match the front of the building; replace severely rotten wooden door and above window at rear of Parish Hall with hardwood replacement to match and locks to comply with Insurance requirements
Location: Parish Hall, Britway Road, Dinas Powys
Listed Building: Grade II

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PROCEDURE) ORDER, 1995

Application(s) which might affect a Public Right of Way

Application No: 2009/00644/FUL
Proposal: Alteration to roof finish (application 2008/01459/FUL for holiday accommodation)
Location: Tregwynt, Barn adjacent Glan-y-Mor House, Wick

Full details (including plans) may be inspected during normal working hours for a period of 21 days in the offices of the Head of Planning and Transportation at the address given below.

Dated: 16 July, 2009

Rob Thomas
Head of Planning and Transportation
The Vale of Glamorgan Council,
Dock Office,
Barry Docks,
Barry, CF63 4RT

Situations Vacant

BE A MULTI-SKILLED ENERGY ASSESSOR

Regardless of the recession, a new European Directive now legally requires an estimated 2.5 million homes and commercial properties being rented, sold or built to have an Energy Assessment this year alone. And more 'green environmental' laws are coming!

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No previous experience is necessary, training to join this new growth industry can usually be taken around current job at our nationwide training centres **approved by the Government-appointed Awarding Body for the Built Environment and is subsidised.** On qualifying start your own energy business, work for other Assessment Providers or be available for potential full or part-time work through our Energy Assessor Panel **with earnings of £50 to £1,200 per Assessment.** ref: HGL29S

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Public Notices

SEVEN DAY NOTICE

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Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds, LS9 6NF stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A guide to making representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's Office.

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Family Notices

DENT
Professor Colin

Aged 49, peacefully at home with his family after a long illness on July 8, 2009, very dear husband of Sarah, brilliant Dad to Rebecca, Rosie and Will, a highly valued friend and colleague.

Donations if desired to Joint Action c/o Mr C Wilson, Dept of Orthopaedics, Llandough Hospital, Penarth.

WATTS
Elspeth
The family of the late Elspeth Watts wish to thank all who kindly sent messages of sympathy and condolence.

To advertise here please contact The GEM on 01446 774484 or e-mail: gemsales@internet-today.co.uk

Birthdays

Rhian Lewis
40 Today!
MAY ALL YOUR WRINKLES BE LAUGHTER LINES!
Love, Mum, Jane and Grandad.
XXXX

Jake Parsons
20.7.2009
OUR BEAUTIFUL LITTLE BOY
Happy 1st Birthday!
Lots of love, Mummy, Daddy, your doggy Sasha and all your friends & family.
x x x

Alastair Gordon
17th July
Congratulations on your 18th birthday
Love, Mum, Dad and Elliot.
XXXXX

Thank You

A big, big thank you to all my family and friends for making my 'Golden Birthday' so special.
Thank you so much for all your good wishes and gifts. Baie dankie vir alles jim ek waarduur dit.
A1 my liefde, Pixi.
XXXX

Congratulations

Marg & Dave Evans of Bonvilston
celebrate their
Diamond Wedding Anniversary
on 16th July, 2009
Congratulations Mum and Dad.
Lots of love from Sue, Al, and all the family.
x x x

Congratulations
Charlotte Turner
on achieving a
1st with Honours in Fine Art
at Kingston Upon Thames London
With love from your very proud parents, sister Louise and all the family.
x x x

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2002 Hyundai Amica GSi Automatic
MoT'd, Taxed February 2010
Immaculate, genuine 7,000 miles, one owner.
£1,495
01446 773505 29

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90k, white
£2,850 (no VAT)
07970 049005 29

W Reg Red Citroen Saxo 3 Door Hatch
950cc engine, MOT end May 2010.
£850 ono
01446 771585 26

November 2004 Renault Clio 3-dr 1.2 16v
12,000 miles, one lady owner, fsh, pas, tax & MoT till Oct. Ex cond.
£3,200 ono
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02 Reg Renault Clio Sport 172
Pearl silver, 1 owner from new, 29,000 miles, excellent condition, 11 months MOT, recent service.
£3,995 ono
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05 Reg Suzuki CarryVan 1300
MOT/Tax until June 2010, 16,000 miles, immaculate condition.
£2,850
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06 Reg Renault Clio Campus Sport 1.2
C/L, E/W, PAS, met black, MOT, tax, 21,000 miles, lady driver since new.
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GIRLS APOLLO rampage s bike like new £25. Desk with leather top £50. Please ring 01446 794945. **(29)**

REPRODUCTION Grandmother Clock, as new £100 ono. Victorian Antiqued Brass Headboard with Ivory Knobs £50 ono. Tel 01446 754386 - 07597 915580. **(29)**

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VIBRATION Power Plate. Whole Body Vibration Exercise machine £300 ono. ABS Exercise Bench £50 ono. Tel 01446 754386 - 07597 915580.**(29)**

HOTPOINT dishwasher, white, good condition, £75. Tel 01446 719163.**(29)**

MASKRAYS circular glass table, chrome base, seats 4 - £85. 01446 773505.**(29)**

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STAINLESS STEEL Maytag dishwasher, almost new £85. Tumble dryer, like new £65. Tel: 07792 243035/01656 724128. **(27)**

SILVER CROSS pram/pushchair including raincover, cosy toes, change bag £350 new, £150. Tel: 01446 738618. **(27)**

6' x 4'6" (DOUBLE) SLUMBERLAND Gold Jewel deluxe divan and mattress, as new. £180 ono. Tel: 01656 880679. **(27)**

Vale tennis players win in Scotland

James Hignett and Safiyyah Azeez.

VALE players won both the boys and girls titles in the 16-and-under competition at the Scottish Open Junior Tennis Championships in Edinburgh.

James Hignett of Penarth and Safiyyah Azeez of Dinas Powys both won their respective competitions at the tournament – a Grade 2 event which attracts national standard players from all over Great Britain.

"This is a great achievement for two of our promising players and will ensure they both rise up the GB rankings list for their age group," said Tennis Wales chief executive, Peter Hybart.

James trains at Reeds School in Surrey (which produced Tim Henman), and Safiyyah trains at Esporta Cardiff.

Rain stumps Barry Stags

DUE to heavy downpours, all three Barry cricket club matches that were due to be played last weekend were cancelled.

With the second half of the season under way, Barry First XI and Barry Second XI are sitting dangerously inside the relegation places of their Divisions.

However, there isn't much to pick between the sides around them and a few results going the right way will help secure league status when the 2009 season draws to a close.

Barry Third XI are sitting pretty in mid-table at the half way point of the season and, with a large gap between them and the current leaders, Pentwyn CC, they can only hope for a top five finish in the Sunday League.

Next weekend sees Ian Gadd's Barry First XI visit relegation rivals, Machen CC, in a crucial match that could have a say in who goes down and who survives.

Martin Baker's Second XI play host to former Premier League side, Miskin Manor CC.

After missing out on the chance to move above Newport Fugitives CC last week, the Stags need to start grinding out as many points as possible to avoid relegation.

Next Sunday will see Barry Thirrd XI play host to title hopefuls, Cardiff CC.

Barry have won the last four meetings between the sides and will hope to dent their title hopes.

AB

Entrants for Ron Thomas event welcomed

BARRY ATHLETIC'S annual JR Thomas Open Pairs will be held at Barry Island, commencing on Sunday, August 2 with the final on Sunday, August 9.

Prize money totals £800. The popular event, held in memory of Ron Thomas, one of the club's former stalwarts in the bowling world, attracts bowlers throughout south Wales.

The current trophy holders are Robert Horgan and Glyn Thomas of Barry Athletic.

Entries close next week and those interested should contact the competitions secretary, Dave Newman (01446 736276).

CP

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AGILA
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CORSA
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- 08 Corsa Club 1.2 5dr, in Silver Lightning, 15,900 miles £7695
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WHO WANTS TO BUILD WHAT AND WHERE IN THE VALE?

Mr and Mrs Julian and Susan Phillips, **Penbury, Heol Mynydd, Welsh St Donats** – single storey side extension and first floor extension over existing playroom and garage. New window to garden elevation gable to existing attic/study.
Mr and Mrs R Graham, **San Marco, 26 Craig Yr Eos Road, Ogmore By Sea** – single storey extension to provide indoor swimming pool.
Mr David Cheung, **Sankai Restaurant, 46 Plassey Street, Penarth** – removal of condition 3 of approved planning permission (no hot food take-away sales shall be permitted from the premises).
Mr H Morris, **56 Plas Taliesin, Penarth** – replacement balcony to rear; replacement Juliet balcony to rear; extension of existing balcony to front.
Mr Robert Mansfield, **11 Tair Gwaun, Penarth** – conversion of integral double garage to dining room.
Mr Chris Edwards, **6 Westward Rise, Barry** – dormer windows to existing front roof.
Mrs Sharon Crosby, **3 Boverton Road, Boverton** – summer house in rear garden.
Mr Keith Parfitt, **23 Greave Close, Wenvoe** – construction of double garage to replace existing garage with new access off Tarris Lane.
Mr and Mrs John Skilitzky, **Woodlands House, Llandough, near Cowbridge** – new conservatory extension and general alterations.
Mr and Mrs J Pearch, **Primrose View, St Quentins Close, Llanblethian** – removal of existing bungalow and erection of detached garage.
Mr Michael Tough, **outbuilding at Penyrheol Farm, Llysworney** – conversion of existing stone barn for use as holiday let residential accommodation.
Mr Anthony Sellwood, **10 Nyth Yr Eos, Rhoose Point, Rhoose** – retention of garden extension and fence to provide continued access to and protection of private drainage.
Mr Brian page, **19 Meadowcroft, Rhoose** – side extension to bungalow to increase size of existing bedrooms.
Lt Col Rhodri Traherne, **Doghill Farm Barn Complex, Dyffryn, St Nicholas** – installation of Titan Biotec P18 sewage treatment plant.
Mr Anthony Hewlett, **9 Ruthin Terrace, Barry** – double storey front and side extension and loft conversion.
Mrs Best, **2 Clos Llanfair, Wenvoe** – fell Sycamore, remove two limbs on Beech and cut back leader on beech.
Mr Jeremy Allen, **Compton House, East Street, Llantwit Major** – retention of changes to existing approved plans.
Mr Keith Ryall, **15 The Paddocks, Penarth** – first floor extension, amendment to current permission.
Mr Andrew Bourner, **16 Stallcourt Avenue, Llantwit Major** – single storey rear and side extensions; amendments to approved planning application.
Mr Jeff Legge, **231 Redlands Road, Penarth** – garage extension to form utility room and storeroom.
Mr David Chandler, **78Queens Road, Penarth** – conversion of the existing ground floor office area into a one-bedroom flat.
Mr Phil Whitcombe, **Bryn Hafren Comprehensive School, Merthyr Dyfan Road, Barry** – provision of floodlights in association with upgrade to existing redgra sports pitch (lay artificial carpet and replace fencing to same height 3m).
Mrs Fiona James, **Green Meadow, Corntown Road, Corntown** – single storey extension to rear of property.
Lynn Sexton, **Pound Cottage, Dyffryn Lane, St Nicholas** – remove conifers to rear/side and conifers to rear near conservatory and trim those near power cable.
Mr and Mrs P Lougher, **Batslays Farm, Higher End, St Athan** - variation of condition 1 of planning 2004/00269/FUL and 2004/00268/LBC – development to be commenced within five years.

Vale road works report

Dock View Road junction with Thompson Street, Barry – temporary traffic signals.
Church Road, Bridge Street, Cowbridge Street, Barry – traffic barriers in place; carriageway width restrictions.
The Broadshord, Cowbridge – intermittent traffic control to allow drainage works and access improvements.
Pontypridd Street, junction with Mount Pleasant – footway restrictions in place.
B4267 Lavernock Road, Penarth near Brockhill Rise – off-peak temporary traffic signals.

PENARTH FESTIVAL

Penarth festival road closures on July 18: The Esplanade (between 12noon-11pm); **Glebe Street, Penarth junction with Windsor Road and Ludlow Street** (between 7am-6pm daily) and **Beach Road, Bridgeman Road and Park Road throughout its length** ((between 2pm-11pm.

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06 **06 MINI 1.6 Cooper Chilli 2-dr Convertible.** In metallic orange with half leather interior, CD, air con, alloy wheels, rear parking sensors, only 25,320 miles **£11,995**

05 **55 BMW 1 Series 2.0 TD 118d Sport 5-dr Hatchback** in sapphire black moire anthracite interior, cd, alloy wheels, a/c, only39,160 miles **£10,995**

04 **04 MINI 1.6 Cooper Pepper 3-dr Hatchback.** In chilli red with half leather interior, rear spoiler, alloy wheels, air con, only 50,170 miles **£7,495**

03 **03 MINI 1.4 TD One Salt Pack.** In Indi Blue with beige and panther black full leather interior, automatic climate control, heated seats, electronic sunroof, only 79,370 miles **£7,495**

L **93 AUSTIN Mini 1.3 Sprite 2-dr Saloon Automatic.** In night fire red with grey interior, all original specification, only 47,215 miles **£2,995**

CONVERTIBLES

07 **07 MAZDA MX-5 2.0i Sport 2-dr Convertible.** In radiant ebony with stone leather interior, heated seats, multifunction steering wheel, CD, air con, only 15,450 miles **£13,995**

05 **55 VW Beetle 2.0 2-dr Cabriolet** In reflex silver with black leather interior, heated seats, air con, CD, alloy wheels, only 25,010 miles **£9,995**

05 **05 FORD Street ka 1.6 Luxury 2-dr Convertible** in French met, blue with ebony black leather interior, heated seats, air con, elec windows, front fogs, cd,only 17.050 miles **£6,495**

03 **03 FORD Street ka 1.6 Luxury 2-dr Convertible** in street silver, black leather interior, heated seats, a/c, alloy wheels, only 69,700 miles **£4,495**

02 **02 PORSCHE Boxster S 3.2 2-dr Convertible** in brilliant silver with black leather interior, 18inch sport design alloy wheels, wind deflector, climate control, heated seats, only 38,850 miles **£13,995**

99 **T MAZDA MX5 1.8i 2-dr Convertible 10th Anniversary Limited Edition.** In mica metallic blue with blue/black interior, alloy wheels, CD, alarm, immobiliser, body coloured bumpers, only 42,422 miles **£4,995**

EXECUTIVE/SPORTS

06 **06 JAGUAR X-Type 2.0 Diesel S 4-Dr Saloon.** In Ebony black with warm black leather interior, automatic climate control, CD, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, only 63,930 miles **£8,995**

06 **55 TOYOTA Corolla 1.8 VVTi T Sport 3-dr Manual Hatchback.** In Red with sports seats and sports steering wheel, alloy wheels, front fogs, body kit, traction control, only 27,780 miles **£7,995**

05 **55 VOLVO S40 2.0 Diesel SE** in amethyst with ivory leather interior, cd, alloy wheels, cruise control, sunroof, electric seats, only 34,255 miles **£9,995**

05 **05 MAZDA 3 2.0 Sport 5-Dr Hatchback.** In sunlight silver with ebony black interior, colour coded bumpers, automatic air con, alloy wheels, CD, only 19,400 miles **£7,995**

04 **54 TOYOTA Celica 1.8 VVTi Premium Coupe.** In crystal silver with Montreal black leather interior, climate control, alloy wheels, immobiliser, deadlocks, alarm, CD, only 27,953 miles **£8,995**

04 **54 PEUGEOT 206 1.6 HDi 110bhp GTi 3-dr Hatchback.** In Sahara yellow with half anthracite leather/suede interior, digital air con, multi CD, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, only 22,755 miles **£6,995**

04 **54 JAGUAR X-Type 2.0 Diesel Classic.** Jaguar Racing Green with dark interior, air con, CD, alloy wheels, 63,000 miles **£5,995**

04 **04 LAND ROVER Range Rover 2.0 Td6 Vogue 5-dr Automatic.** In Epsom green with parchment and sage leather interior, front and rear parking sensors, heated front and rear seats, electric sunroof, automatic climate control, sat nav & TV pre-paid,only 68,590 miles **£20,995**

04 **04 SEAT Ibiza 1.9 TDi 130 FR 3-Dr Hatchback.** In Flash Red with sport grid dark interior, alloy wheels, climate control, sports seats, traction control, CD, alarm, only 31,260 miles **£6,495**

04 **04 RENAULT Megane 2.0 VVT 136bhp Dynamique 3-Dr Hatchback.** In capsicum red with charcoal leather interior, automatic air con, CD, alloy wheels, heated seats, cruise control, only 43,485 miles **£5,295**

03 **03 AUDI TT 1.8 T Quattro 225bhp 3-dr Coupé** In Mauritius Blue with grey leather interior, heated seats, automatic climate control, multi CD, colour coded bumpers, only 32,170 miles **£12,495**

02 **52 AUDI A4 SE 2.0 Petrol 4-dr Saloon Automatic.** In Crystal Blue with phoenix cloth interior, parking sensors on front and rear, air con, CD, alloy wheels, electric windows, only 55,560 miles **£5,995**

ECONOMICAL SMALL CARS

08 **08 FORD Fiesta 1.4 TDCi Zetec Blue 5-Dr Hatchback.** In blazer blue with Koyoto blue interior, 7 spoke alloy wheels, air con, CD, MP3 adapter, colour coded bumpers, only 9,575 miles **£9,295**

08 **57 FORD Ka 1.3 Zetec Climate 3-dr Hatchback.** In apple green with Cascade indigo interior, climate control, alloy wheels, CD, body coloured bumpers, heated front screen, only 3,873 miles **£5,995**

07 **07 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2i 16v SXi 3-dr hatchback** in black sapphire with black interior, air con, alloy wheels, cdm colour coded bumpers, only 19,615 miles **£7,495**

07 **07 PEUGEOT 206 1.4 Look 3-dr Hatchback** in aluminium silver with Madison graphite interior, air con, cd, electric front windows, only 9,120 miles **£6,495**

07 **07 RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Extreme 3-dr Hatchback.** In metallic black with dark interior, alloy wheels, CD, body coloured bumpers, front electric windows, only 19,005 miles **£6,495**

07 **07 FIAT Grande Punto 1.2 Active 5-dr Hatchback.** In chemical gray with drop blue black interior, central locking, CD, immobiliser, body coloured bumpers, only 22,120 miles **£5,795**

06 **56 FORD Fiesta 1.25 Zetec Climate 3-dr Hatchback** in tonic blue with tungsten/denim interior, air con, alloy wheels, quick clear screen, cd, front fogs, only 24,250 miles **£5,995**

06 **06 PEUGEOT 206 1.4 Verve 3-dr Hatchback.** In onyx black with madison grey interior, air con, alloy wheels, CD, low insurance, only 14,545 miles **£5,995**

06 **06 RENAULT Clio 1.4 16v Dynamique 3-dr Hatchback.** In nautical blue with jacquard black interior, front fogs, alloy wheels, CD, only 35,870 miles **£5,995**

06 **56 PEUGEOT 107 1.0 12v Urban 3-dr Hatchback.** In Raven black with black matrix interior, electric windows, CD, colour coded bumpers, only 16,465 miles, £35 a year tax **£5,995**

06 **06 SMART 700 Passion 3-dr Hatchback.** 6-speed sequential gearbox in jet black with grey interior, air con, cd, alloy wheels, elec windows, only 11,235 miles **£6,495**

05 **55 FIAT Panda 1.2 Eleganza 5-Dr Hatchback.** In cocktail blue with Azure blue interior, air con, alloy wheels, CD, only 16,400 miles **£4,995**

05 **05 FORD Fiesta 1.25 Style 3-Dr Hatchback.** In metallic tonic blue with ebony interior, 17" upgraded alloy wheels, CD, colour coded bumpers, only 28,445 miles **£4,995**

04 **04 FIAT Punto 1.2 8v Active 5-Dr Hatchback.** In crystal metallic with grey tek interior, immobiliser, electric front windows, colour coded bumpers, only 10,170 miles **£3,795**

03 **03 TOYOTA Yaris GS 1.0L Petrol 5-dr.** In dark green, with grey interior, central locking, CD, only 63,500 miles **£3,495**

03 **03 FORD Ka 1.3 Luxury 3-Dr Hatchback.** In metallic black with light Cyprus leather interior, electric windows, quick clear front screen, alloy wheels, CD, air con, only 48,741 miles **£3,495**

02 **02 RENAULT Clio 1.4 16v Privilege 5-dr Hatchback.** In Nordic green with vertigo grey interior, air con, 5 belted seats, body coloured bumpers, power steering, only 38,940 miles. **£3,995**

04 **04 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.0 Life 3-dr Hatchback.** In breeze blue with Orleans charcoal interior, CD, 5 belted seats, steering wheel audio mounted controls, only 56,321 miles **£3,495**

FAMILY SELECTION

06 **56 FORD Focus 1.6 Ghia 5-dr Hatchback Automatic.** In aquarius blue with cubical ebony interior, air con, cruise control. quick clear screen, only 26,900 miles **£7,995**

06 **06 PEUGEOT 307 1.6 16VSE 5-Dr Hatchback.** In hurricane grey with Ikho black interior, front fog lights, multi CD, air con, rear parking sensors, only 40,018 miles **£6,995**

04 **54 NISSAN Primera 2.0 SX 5-Dr Hatchback.** In ice silver with graphite interior, CD, reversing camera, air con, only 48,327 miles **£4,495**

04 **04 RENAULT Scenic 1.6 VVT Expression 5-Dr Hatchback.** In pacific blue with papyrus beige interior, climate control, front fog lights, panoramic roof, CD, only 41,590 miles **£4,695**

04 **04 FORD Mondeo 1.8 Mistrial 5-dr.** In Tonic Blue with majestic ebony upholstery, air con, central locking, CD, alloy wheels, only 61,165 miles **£3,995**

04 **04 MG ZR+ 1.4 3-dr.** In metallic grey with half leather interior, electric windows, air con, alloy wheels, CD, only 63,335 miles **£3,495**

04 04 LAND ROVER Range Rover 2.0 Td6 Vogue 5-dr Automatic. In Epsom green with parchment and sage leather interior, front and rear parking sensors, heated front and rear seats, e/sunroof, automatic climate control, only 68,590 miles. Sat Nav and TV Pre-paid . . . **£20,995**

04 54 PEUGEOT 206 1.6 HDi 110bhp GTi 3-dr Hatchback. In Sahara yellow with anthracite leather/suede interior, digital air con, multi CD, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, only 22,755 miles **£6,995**

04 04 FORD Mondeo 1.8 Mistrial 5-dr. In Tonic Blue with majestic ebony upholstery, air con, central locking, CD, alloy wheels, only 61,165 miles . **£3,995**

06 56 PEUGEOT 107 1.0 12v Urban 3-dr Hatchback. In Raven black with black matrix interior, electric windows, CD, colour coded bumpers, only 16,465 miles, £35 a year tax **£5,995**

07 07 FIAT Grande Punto 1.2 Active 5-dr Hatchback. In chemical gray with drop blue black interior, central locking, CD, immobiliser, body coloured bumpers, only 22,120 miles **£5,795**

04 54 JAGUAR X-Type 2.0 Diesel Classic. Jaguar Racing Green with dark interior, air con, CD, alloy wheels, 63,000 miles **£5,995**

99 T MAZDA MX5 1.8i 2-dr Convertible 10th Anniversary Limited Edition. In mica metallic blue with blue/black interior, alloy wheels, CD, alarm, immobiliser, body coloured bumpers, only 42,422 miles **£4,995**

0303 FORD Street Ka 1.6 Luxury 2-dr Convertible in street silver, black leather interior, heated seats, a/c, alloy wheels, only 69,700 miles **£4,495**

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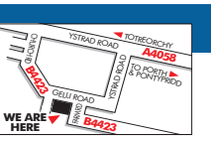

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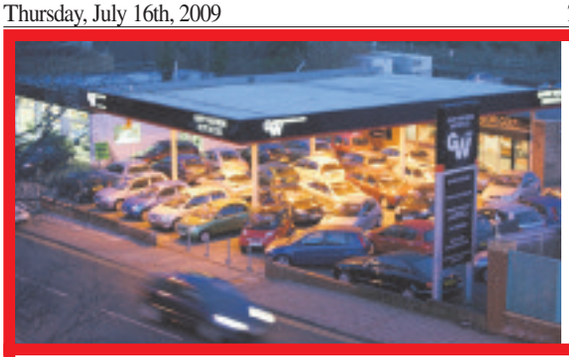

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06 MINI One 1.6 Convertible in chilli red, 26,000 miles with a/c and TLC to July 2011 . . . . . **£9,995**

99 JAGUAR XKR Silver, ivory leather, 61,000 miles, host of extras inc 20 inch alloys **£12,995**

W BMW Z3 1.8 In topaz blue, with blue roof and leather trim, 63,000 miles, fantastic value at.....**£5,495**

55 SMART Roadster 90 Triptronic Auto. In smoke silver, 1 owner, 47,000 miles, fun convertible...**£5,995**

CONVERTIBLES

07	**SAAB 93 Convertible 2.0 Vector** Silver with grey leather trim, 18,000 miles, fantastic value	£14,995
99	**JAGUAR XKR** Silver, ivory leather, 61,000 miles, host of extras inc 20 inch alloys	£12,995
06	**MINI One 1.6 Convertible.** In chilli red, 26,000 miles with a/c and TLC to July 2011	£9,995
V	**MERCEDES SLK 230 Auto** In silver with black leather, 60,000 miles with a/c, cd	£7,695
55	**RENAULT Megane 1.9 DCi Dynamique 130 Convertible.** In met grey with grey leather, 85,000 miles with multi cd	£6,995
55	**SMART Roadster 90 Triptronic Auto.** In smoke silver, 1 owner, 47,000 miles, fun convertible	£5,995
W	**BMW Z3 1.8** In topaz blue, with blue roof and leather trim, 63,000 miles, fantastic value at	£5,495

SPORT, PRESTIGE & 4X4

56	**LEXUS iS 250 SEL (New Shape) Automatic.** In met. red with cream leather, 17,000 miles, 1 local owner	£17,995
56	**BMW 118 Diesel Sport** In silver with charcoacl trim, 27,000 miles, fsh	£12,995
55	**MERCEDES C220 CDi SE Sport Coupe Auto.** In smoke silver, 58,000 miles	REDUCED BY £1000 TO £10,995
03	**AUDI TT 225.** In black with black leather trim, 63,000 miles	£10,495
54	**BMW 530 SE Automatic** In met silver with full black leather trim, full specification executive saloon at	£9,995
06	**JAGUAR X-Type 2.0 Diesel** in light blue met with grey half-leather trim, 71,000 miles,	REDUCED BY £1000 TO £7,995
53	**MINI COOPER S** In met black, half leather, cruise control, 65,000 miles with a/c, pan-roof, superb example at	£7,995
54	**BMW 316 ES Compact.** In black, 61,000 miles, very nice example at	£6,995
02	**BMW 330 Sport.** In silver with black leather trim, 64,000 miles, superb value at	£6,995
54	**MERCEDES A140 Classic SE.** In silver, 69,000 miles, looks and drives superb	£4,995
W	**MAZDA MX5 1.8.** In met-silver, 57,000 miles, hard and soft top, fsh	£4,495
02	**LAND ROVER Freelander 1.8 GS 5-Dr.** In champagne gold, 65,000 miles, 4x4 at	£3,995

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58	**CITROEN C2 1.4 VTR** in red, 7,000 miles, under manufacturers warranty	£7,995
06	**FIESTA 1.6 Zetec S.** In met grey with leather trim, 35,000 miles, superb throughout	£6,995
05	**SKODA Octavia 2.0 FSi Elegance.** In silver, 42,000 miles, 1 owner	£6,995
06	**PEUGEOT 206 1.4 Sport 3-dr.** In black, 22,000 miles, one owner	£6,495
06	**RENAULT Clio 1.4 Dynamique 3-dr (new shape)** in black, low mileage example at	£6,495
55	**RENAULT Megane 1.5 Diesel Expression Automatic.** In met silver, 37,000 miles	£6,495
56	**TOYOTA Aygo 1.0 VVTi 5-dr.** Black, low mileage, local one owner car	REDUCED BY £500 TO £5,995
05	**VAUXHALL Astra 1.7 CDti Life 5-Dr.** In met silver, low mileage example at	£5,995
55	**RENAULT Clio (new shape) 1.2 Expression** in met blue, low mileage car with a/c	£5,695
55	**RENAULT Clio 1.2 Expression 5-dr** in silver, 42,000 miles with cd, sunroof, etc	£4,995
05	**CITROEN C3 1.4 Desire** In light met-blue, 34,000 miles, 1 local owner with CD	£4,995
54	**VAUXHALL Corsa 1.3 CDTi Energy 3-dr** in black, low mileage diesel at.	£4,995
54	**MITSUBISHI Colt Diesel Equippe** In seal grey, 42,000 miles, 2 owners	£4,995
Y	**VW Beetle 2.0.** In silver, 48,000 miles with a/c, alloys, etc	£4,995
04	**FOCUS 1.6LX 5-dr.** In met silver, 39,000 miles with c/d, alloys, etc	£4,695
03	**SMART Passion 600 Coupe Softouch Automatic.** In silver and blue, low mileage, 1 lady owner	£4,495
05	**FORD Ka 1.3 Collection.** In metallic grey, low mileage example with air con, cd etc.	£4,395
04	**SMART CAR Pulse.** Red & black, black leather trim, 35,000 miles. full glass roof	REDUCED BY £600 TO £4,395
54	**SUZUKI 1.5 VVTi Ignis Sport.** Silver, 50,000 miles, Recaro seats, alloys etc.	REDUCED BY £1000 TO £3,995
04	**SKODA Superb 1.9 TDi 130** In met green with black leather trim, superb condition.	£3,995
53	**RENAULT Clio 1.2 Expression 3-dr** In jade metallic, 53,000 miles, 1 owner with a/c, s/roof etc.	£3,995
03	**VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 SX 3-dr.** In Black, 61,000 miles with CD, alloys etc.	£3,795
03	**SEAT Ibiza 1.4S 3-dr.** In Oyster metallic, 53,000 miles, with air con, CD, etc.	£3,795
04	**ROVER 75 2.0 Diesel.** In met silver, superb comfort and economy at only	£3,695
03	**RENAULT Megane 1.6 Dynamique 5-Dr.** In met. burgundy, 58,000 miles, family hatch at	£3,695
03	**RENAULT Megane 1.4 Extreme 3-dr.** In met red, 48,000 miles with alloys, c/d etc	£3,495
54	**ROVER 45 1.6 Club SE** In met. green with beige trim, 57,000 miles, a/c, cd	£3,495
05	**DAEWOO Lacetti SX 5-dr** in silver, 26,000 miles, excellent example at	£3,495
52	**VW Polo 1.2 S 3-Dr.** In electric blue, 59,000 miles with CD, air con, etc.	£3,495
03	**RENAULT Megane 1.4 Dynamique 5-dr** in met blue, stylish modern family hatch at	REDUCED BY £200 TO £3,295
03	**RENAULT Clio 1.2 Expression 16v.** 3-dr in electric blue, low mileage local car at	REDUCED BY £200 TO £3,295
04	**DAEWOO Matiz 800 Extra** In red, low mileage, local car at with CD, alloys etc	£2,995
53	**FIAT Punto 1.2 Active 3-dr.** In met red, low mileage, low insurance	REDUCED BY £300 TO £2,995
03	**FORD Ka 1.3i.** In Blue, 30,000 miles, local car at	£2,995
51	**PEUGEOT 206 Style 1.9 Diesel 5-dr.** Jade met, 74,000 miles	£2,995
X	**VAUXHALL Zafira 1.6 Comfort.** In steel grey met, low mileage, 7 seater	£2,695
Y	**NISSAN Micra 1.0 S 5-dr Automatic.** In met-green, only 21,000 miles, 2 lady owners	REDUCED BY £300 TO £2,695
Y	**FORD Fiesta 1.6 Freestyle 3-dr.** In black, low mileage, local car at	£2,495

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08 1.0i Rhythm 3dr Hatch	Red	15,000miles	£6,995
08 1.0i Rhythm	Grey	5,010miles	£6,995
07 1.0i Vibe 3dr Hatch	Red	13,000miles	£5,995
06 1.0i Vibe 3dr Hatch	Red	17,609miles	£5,295
06 1.0i Vibe 3dr Hatch	Red	19,600miles	£5,195
CITROEN C2			
07 1.1i Design 3dr Hatch	Black	16,900miles	£5,995
56 1.6i 16v by LOEB Sp Eds	Red	20,700miles	£6,995
CITROEN C3			
56 1.1i Desire Special Edition	Blue	19,522miles	£5,995
06 1.6i 16v VTR 5dr Hatch	Red	13,749miles	£6,995
06 1.4i HDi Desire 5dr Hatch	Steel	22,267miles	£6,995
06 1.4i SX 5dr Hatch	Grey	15,000miles	£6,995
06 1.1i L 5dr Hatch	Red	1,534miles	£5,995
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05 RENAULT Clio 1.2 3dr Rush LE In factory silver. Lovely small 2 owner hatchback with only 16,000 miles. Factory alloys, electric windows, electric mirrors, sunroof, CD player. Only group 2 insurance and cheaper band insurance. Must be seen at ONLY £4,495
55 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 16v Sxi [80] Twin Port 3dr In Quicksilver metallic. Immaculate 3 door hatchback. Factory alloy wheels, remote locking, CD player, Only group 2 insurance and cheaper band C road tax, Capable of over 45mpg. Must be seen at £4,295
H LAND ROVER Defender 110 V8 County In alpine white. SUPERB 110 V8, very powerful old school Defender with loads of history. 12 seater 4x4 with power steering, and loads more. Superb vehicle at. £3,995
52 FORD Focus 1.6-16v 5dr Zetec red metallic, JUST 48,000 miles. With service history, in fantastic condition, air con, e/windows, alloys £3,995
05 VOLKSWAGEN LT35 TDI MWB in white full VW service history, in built office room with rear cab storage. POWER STEERING, DIESEL £3,995
V LEXUS IS 200 SE 2.0 Navigator In green met, 88,000 miles FSH. SATALLITE NAVIGATION, air con, leather, e windows £3,995
53 RENAULT Megane 1.6 Expression 16v 5dr in silver met, NEW SHAPE 5dr covered ONLY 38,000 miles. FSH, Card system, excellent condition £3,995
03 FORD Ka 1.3i Luxury (Ltr) Black, 48,000 miles FSH, leather, a/c, power steering, Grp 3 insurance, low tax, immaculate condition £3,795
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52 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.0 Life 5dr silver, ONLY 53,000 miles FSH, , electric windows, remote locking, PAS, e/m. ONLY GRP 3 insurance £2,995
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02 FORD Ka 1.3i Collection 3dr in silver met, ONLY 53,000 miles FSH. Beautiful throughout. Group 3 insurance, PAS, CD e/w £2,495
N DAIHATSU Fourtrak 2.8 TDL SE Independent Finished in azurite blue metallic with charcoal cloth seats. Late generation 2.8 face lift model with electric windows, remote alarm, power steering, artificial horizon, diff lock. FULL SERVICE HISTORY in fantastic origional condition £1,995
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H NISSAN Sunny 1.3 16v Van FWD In Artic White, a superb project - a very early japanese icon from the 1990's. It is ready for anything and would make a great retro surfing van, weekend away toy or even a everyday workhorse - a rare find indeed and for sale at. £595
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05 VOLKSWAGEN Polo 1.2S 3-dr. Finished in Mars red, pas, r/c/l, e/w, a/c, 34k **£4995**

05 VOLVO C70 2.0T GT Convertible. Finished in met silver, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 46k **£8995**

08 AUDI TT Roadster (150) finished in black with black sports cloth trim, 19 inch upgrade alloys, climate control, radio, cd, 74k **£8,795**

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03 **PORSCHE Boxster 3.2 S.** Finished in black **with full grey leather**, 18" upgrade alloys, a/c, sports seats, cd, electric hood, 60k **£13795**
03 **AUDI TT Roadster (150).** Finished in black with black sports cloth trim, 19inch upgrade alloys, climate control, radio, cd, 74k **£8795**
T **TOYOTA MR2 Roadster.** Finished in met. silver with black hood, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 53k **£4995**

SPORTS/EXECUTIVE

57 **VAUXHALL Astra 1.9 CDTI (Diesel) (150bhp) 16v SRI.** Met black, **full black leather,** sports seats, pas, alloys, a/c, 25k **£9695**
07 **VAUXHALL Corsa 1.6 VXR 3-dr.** Finished in met black, **half leather**, alloys, a/c, cd, sports seats, 23k **£10695**
56 **AUDI Q7 S-Line 3.0TDi (Diesel) Quattro.** Finished in met black with **black leather/suede interior**, 20" alloys, climate control, cd, 1 owner, fsh, 28k **£25995**
06 **VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 SXi+.** Finished in met black with **1/2 leather sports trim**, alloys, pas, c/l, e/w, radio/cd, 38k **£5295**
55 **SEAT Leon FR TDi (Diesel) 5-dr.** Finished in black, alloys, climate, radio, cd **£8995**
55 **VOLKSWAGEN Golf 2.0 GT TDi (Diesel) (140) 5-dr.** Finished in met grey, alloys, a/c, cd, fsh, 63k **£8695**
55 **FIAT Stilo 1.4 16v Active Sport 3-dr.** Finished in met black, alloys, a/c, radio. cd, 43k **£4195**
55 **FORD Fiesta 2.0 ST.** Finished in red with **1/2 black leather trim**, alloys, a/c, cd, 44k **£6995**
05 **VOLKSWAGEN Golf 2.0 GT TDi (Diesel) (140) 5-dr.** Finished in met silver, alloys, a/c, radio, cd, multichanger, fsh, 39k **£9795**
54 **PEUGEOT 206 GTi 1.6 HDi (Diesel) 110 3-dr.** Finished in Aegean blue with **full black leather**, sports pack, alloys, a/c, multiplay cd, 44k **£6495**
04 **FORD Sport Ka 1.6.** Finished in met. Grey with sports cloth trim, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 30k **£3695**
53 **VOLKSWAGEN Golf 1.9 GT TDi (Diesel) 5-dr.** Finished in met silver, alloys, a/c, cd, 67k **£6295**
03 **MINI 1.6 Cooper.** Finished in met blue, alloys, a/c, cd multichanger, 46k **£6995**
52 **PEUGEOT 206 GTI 2.0 3-dr.** Finished in china blue met, **leather/suede interior**, pas, alloys, climate, cd **£4295**
Y **PEUGEOT 206 GTI 2.0 3-dr.** Finished in met silver, **black leather trim**, alloys, climate, cd, 36k **£3695**

4x4 / MPV / ESTATE

07 **PEUGEOT 307 S Estate 1.6 HDi (Diesel).** Finished in met. black, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 48k **£6995**
56 **AUDI Q7 S-Line 3.0TDi (Diesel) Quattro.** Finished in met black with **black leather/suede interior**, 20" alloys, climate control, cd, 1 owner, fsh, 28k **£25995**
06/55 **CITROEN VTR Estate 1.6 HDi (Diesel).** Finished in met grey, alloys, a/c, cd, 63k **£6495**
06 **VOLKSWAGEN Transporter T30 1.9 TDi (Diesel) 9 Seater Mini Bus.** Finished in met silver, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, privacy glass **£12995**
06 **SEAT Alhambra Reference 2.0 TDi (Diesel).** Finished in met silver, climate control, radio/cd, **7 seats**, 34k **£10495**
55 **PEUGEOT Partner Totem 1.9 (Diesel) 5-dr.** Finished in met ice blue, pas, c/l, e/w, cd, 33k **£5495**
05 **BMW X5 Sport Auto 3.0D (Diesel) 5-dr.** Finished in toledo blue with **full cream leather trim,** comms pack climate, radio, cd, fsh, 68k **£17495**
05 **RENAULT Megane Sport Tourer Dynamique 1.9 DCi (Diesel) Estate.** Met grey, alloys, climate, cd, fsh, 1 owner **£4695**
54 **MITSUBISHI L200 2.8 TD (Diesel) Warrior Double Cab Pick Up.** Finished in met champagne silver with **full black leather trim**, alloys, a/c, radio, cd **£5795**
04 **MAZDA 6 2.0D TS (Diesel) Estate.** Finished in met blue, alloys, a/c, cd, cruise control, 73k **£5495**
04 **SUZUKI Ground Vitara SWB 1.6 SE.** Finished in met green over silver, pas, c/l, e/w, radio/cd, a/c, 23k **£4495**
03 **RENAULT Scenic 1.6 Fidji.** Finished in met silver, **half suede upholstery**, alloys, a/c, radio, cd, 47k **£3295**

FAMILY CARS

07/57 **VAUXHALL Astra 1.9 CDTI 16v SRI.** Met black, **full black leather sports seats**, pas, alloys, a/c, 25k **£9695**
06 **FORD Focus 1.6 Zetec Climate T 3-dr.** Finished in moondust silver, alloys, climate, cd, 1 owner, 33k **£6295**
06 **CITROEN C4 1.4 VT Coupe.** Finished in met grey, pas, r/c/l, e/w, cd, 1 owner, fsh, 37k **£4995**
55 **VOLKSWAGEN Passat SE 1.9 TDi (Diesel) 4-dr.** Finished in met silver, alloys, air con, radio/cd, 63k **£7495**
05 **SEAT Altea Stylance TDI (Diesel)** Finished in met grey, alloys, climate, cd, 56k **£6495**
05 **SKODA Octavia 2.0 FSi Elegance 5-Dr.** Finished in met. silver, alloys, air con, radio/cd, 42k **£6495**
05 **FORD Focus Zetec Climate 1.6 TDCi (Diesel) 5-dr.** Finished in tonic blue met, alloys, a/c, cd, 70k **£5995**
05 **FORD Mondeo Ghia 2.0 TDCi (130) (Diesel) 5-dr.** Finished in tonic blue met, alloys, a/c, cd, cruise control, 68k . **£5495**
05 **PEUGEOT 307 1.6 SE 5-dr.** Finished in met grey, alloys, climate control, cd, 1 owner, 38k **£5295**
54 **VOLKSWAGEN Golf 1.6S FSi 5-dr.** Finished in met grey, pas, c/l, e/w, air con, radio/cd, 6 speed, fsh, 65k **£6695**
04 **TOYOTA Corolla T3 1.6 VVTi Auto 3-dr.** Finished in met blue, alloys, a/c, cd, 58k **£4995**
04 **SEAT Leon SE 1.8 20v 5-dr.** Finished in met grey, alloys, a/c, cd, 47k **£4795**
53 **FORD Mondeo 1.8 Zetec 5-dr.** Finished in oyster gold met, alloys, a/c, cd, cruise control, 68k **£3695**
03 **CITROEN C5 LX 5-Dr 2.0 HDi (Diesel).** Finished in met red, pas, r/c/l, e/w, a/c, cd, 81k **£2995**
03 **ROVER 75 1.8T Club SE 4-dr.** Finished in met. blue, pas, c/l, e/w, a/c, alloys **£3195**
52 **VOLKSWAGEN Golf 1.4S 5-dr.** Finished in met silver, pas, c/l, e/w, a/c, radio, cd, 50k **£3,995**
02 **CITROEN C5 SX 2.0 HDi (Diesel) 110 5-dr.** Finished in white, alloys, a/c, radio,cd, 75k **£2695**
51 **TOYOTA Avensis 1.8 VVTi GS 5-dr.** Finished in met red, a/c, radio, cd, pas, c/l, e/w, 67k **£2695**

SMALL CARS

08 **(New Shape) VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 Life 3-dr.** Finished in black, pas, c/l, e/w, radio, cd, 15k **£6995**
57 **SMART Fortwo Pure 71 Auto.** Finished in black, pas, r/c/l, cd, 6k, only £35 per year road tax **£5995**
07 **FORD Fiesta Zetec Climate 1.4 TDCI (Diesel) 5-dr.** Finished in black, alloys, a/c, cd, 42k, only £35 per year road tax . **£6795**
56 **FORD Fiesta 1.4 Zetec Climate 3-dr.** Finished in met moondust silver, alloys, a/c, cd, 48k **£6195**
56 **CITROEN C1 1.0 Vibe 3-dr.** Finished in yellow, pas, radio/cd, rear wash wipe, 43k **£4995**
56 **HYUNDAI Getz 1.1 GSI 3-dr.** Met ice blue, pas, c/l, e/w, a/c, cd, 27k **£4695**
06 **CITROEN C3 1.4 Stop and Start Sensive Auto 5-dr.** Finished in met blue, a/c, s/r, radio/cd, reverse parking sensors, paddle shift, 16k **£6295**
06 **PEUGEOT 206 Verve 1.4 HDI (Diesel) 5-dr.** Finished in met blue, alloys, a/c, cd, 36k **£5995**
05 **MAZDA 2 1.4 Antares 5-dr.** Finished in met grey, pas, c/l, e/w, a/c, 27k **£5195**
05 **VOLKSWAGEN Polo 1.2S 3-dr.** Finished in Mars red, pas, r/c/l, e/w, a/c, 34k **£4995**
54 **RENAULT Clio Dynamique 1.5 DCi (Diesel) 3-dr.** Finished in met silver, alloys, s/r, cd, 70k. only £35 a year tax **£4495**
04 **TOYOTA Yaris 1.0 T3 5-dr.** Finished in met silver, c/l, e/w, pas, 48k **£4995**
04 **RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Dynamique 5-dr.** Finished in met silver, alloys, a/c, cd **£4295**
04 **FORD Fiesta 1.25 Finesse 3-dr.** Finished in forest green, pas, cd **£3995**
04 **53 FIAT Punto 1.2 Active 3-dr.** Finished in lagoon blue met, pas, c/l, e/w, radio/cd, 50k **£3295**
53 **RENAULT Clio 1.2 Dynamique 3-dr.** Finished in red, pas, c/l, e/w, cd, 35k **£4495**
53 **PEUGEOT 206 1.4 Fever 3-dr.** Finished in moonstone blue, pas, c/l, e/w, cd, 39k **£3995**
53 **FORD Ka 1.3** finished in met black, pas, radio/cd, alloys **£3195**
03 **MINI 1.6 Cooper.** Finished in met blue, alloys, a/c, cd multichanger, 46k **£6995**
52 **FORD Fiesta 1.4 Zetec 5-dr** finished in met green, alloys, air con, radio/cd, 54k **£3795**
52 **VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 Club 5-Dr.** Finished in met silver, pas, c/l, e/w, 63k **£2795**
02 **RENAULT Clio Dynamique 1.6 3-dr.** Finished in met blue, alloys, a/c, cd **£3295**
Y **PEUGEOT 206 1.1 Style 3-dr.** Finished in crystal met green, pas, c/l, e/w, cd **£2695**

COMMERCIAL VEHICLES

57/56 **FORD Transit 280 FWD 2.2 (Diesel) SWB medium roof van.** Finished in white, ply lined, side loading door, remote central locking, pas, radio, cd, 45k ..... **£6995 + VAT**
07/56 **VOLKSWAGEN Transporter T28 1.9 TDi (Diesel) SWB Van.** Finished in white, side loading door, ply lined, pas, c/l, radio/cd, 33k ..... **£8295 + VAT**
07/56 **VOLKSWAGEN Transporter T28 1.9 TDi (Diesel) SWB Van.** Finished in white, side loading door, ply lined, pas, c/l, radio/cd, 46k ..... **£7995 + VAT**
56 **CITROEN Berlingo 600 LX (Diesel) van.** Finished in white, side loading door, ply lined, pas, e/w, 59k ... **£4295 + VAT**
06 **PEUGEOT Partner L 600D (Diesel) van.** Finished in white, side loading door, ply lined, pas ..... **£3495 + VAT**
05 **FORD Transit 260 FWD 2.0 (Diesel) SWB medium roof.** Finished in blue, ply lined, side loading door, full roller roof rack, pas, remote locking, 54k ..... **£5495 + VAT**

55 FIAT Stilo 1.4 16v Active Sport 3-dr. Finished in met black, alloys, air con, radio, cd, 43k **£4,195**

06/55 CITROEN VTR Estate 1.6 HDi (Diesel). Finished in met grey, alloys, a/c, cd, 63k **£6495**

04 MAZDA 6 2.0D TS (Diesel) Estate. Finished in met blue, alloys, a/c, cdm cruise control, 73k **£5495**

52FORD Fiesta 1.4 Zetec 5-dr finished in met green, alloys, air con, radio/cd, 54k **£3795**

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52 CLIO 1.2 Authentique
Pas, cd, 70k

07	**RENAULT Twingo 1.2 Dynamique 75.** 1 owner, 8k, alloys, air con, sports interior, low tax and insurance, superb	£6495
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05	**VAUXHALL Vectra 1.9 CDTi Design.** 2 owners, FSH, alloys, air con, plush interior, 50+MPG, only	£3995
54	**FORD Fusion 1 1.4 TDCi.** 50k, lady owner, e/pack, low ins, 60mpg, £35 per year road tax	£4895
04	**HONDA Accord 2.2 Executive CDTi.** Top of the range, full leather, low road tax, fsh, in royal blue	£5995
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54	**CITROEN C2 VTS** Paddle shift **Auto**, only 2 owners, 50k, fun to drive, your for only	£3995
04	**FIAT Punto 1.2 8 Valve Active.** 50k, lady owner, e/pack, cd system, low tax and insurance, only	£3495
53	**SMART For Two City Pulse** Only 1 owner, only 40k with service history	£3995
53	**CITROEN CS 2.0 HDi VTR** Fsh, alloys, a/c, cd system, sports trim, super mpg at	£2995
03	**FORD Fiesta 1.4 Zetec** 50k, 2 owners, e/pack, alloys, cd system, low tax & Ins	£3995
03	**FIAT PUNTO 1.2 ACTIVE** 70k, lady owner, e/pack, low ins	£2995
52	**PEUGEOT 307 1.6 LX SW** 55k, fsh, e/pack, alloys, a/c, cd, low ins, lovely estate at	£3995
52	**PEUGEOT 206 1.4 LX** 70k, a/con, cd system, low ins	£3495
52	**RENAULT Laguna 1.9 DCi Authentique,** fsh, 45+ mpg, only	£2995
52	**VAUXHALL Astra 1.6 Comfort.** Two owners, 70k, FSH, alloys, CD player, walnut trim, stunning at just	£2995
52	**RENAULT Laguna 1.9 DCi Authentique.** 90k, s/history, a/con, alloys, plush interior, 50mpg	£2695
02	**MERCEDES BENZ E220 CDi.** Only 2 owners, service record, superb in brilliant silver	£4995
02	**VW GOLF 2.0 SE Estate.** Only 79k, in superb order, versatile vehicle for	£3995
02	**PEUGEOT 406 Executive 2.0 HDi** 62k, s/history, leather, a/con, alloys superb mpg	£2995
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02	**RENAULT LAGUNA 2.0 Privilege Touring Est** Top spec, ideal family estate, huge load area	£2695
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51	**DAEWOO Tacuma 2.0 CDX** **Auto** 70k, lady owner, versatility	£2995
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Y	**VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 SXi** Lady owner, upgrade alloys, cd system, e/pack, low tax & ins	£2695
Y	**FORD Fiesta 1.25 Zetec 5-dr.** 55k, s/history, alloys, e/pack, p/steering, low tax & Ins	£1995
Y	**FORD Mondeo 2.0 Zetec S.** FSH, alloys, CD, ST24 bodykit sports trim, rare at	£1995
Y	**VAUXHALL VECTRA 1.8 SRi Estate.** Half leather, alloys	£1995
X	**CITROEN PICASSO 2.0 TDi SX** in brilliant silver, 50+mpg	£2995
X	**FORD Mondeo 1.8 Zetec.** 80k, s/history, alloys, CD, ideal family hatch at	£1695
X	**CITROEN Xsara 1.4** low insurance, low tax, low price	£1395
W	**VW LUPO 1.4S.** 70k, FSH, e/windows, p/steering, sports trim, low tax and insurance	£2995
W	**MERCEDES C180 Classic.** Alloys, cd player, climate, e/pack	£1995
S	**FORD Ka 1300.** 70k, p/steering, jazzy trim, lovely example, low tax & ins	£1695
S	**HYUNDAI 2.0 SE Coupe.** P/steering, leather, e/pack, alloys, CD, clean example	£1695
S	**PEUGEOT 406 LXS T/Diesel.** Nice spec, sensible miles	£1295
S	**CITROEN XSARA 1.9 T/Diesel.** E/pack, low running costs	£995
R	**SUZUKI Vitara 1.6** Fatboy spec, big alloys, e/pack, sports trim, hard and soft tops	£1995
R	**FORD Fiesta 1.3 Encore.** 80k, lady owner, low tax & insurance, ideal 1st car at	£995
R	**CITROEN Saxo 1.1X.** Alloys, low road tax, low ins, low price, ideal first car	£895
P	**TOYOTA Celica 1.8 ST.** FSH, low miles, alloys, CD system, rear spoiler, e/pack, superb in silver	£1,995

57 PEUGEOT 107 Urban Mode
Met black, fsh, cd, a/c, only £35 per year tax

03 VW Polo 1.9 TDi Sport
70k, fsh, alloys, climate, cd system, sports trim, low tax, fantastic performance

54 FORD Fusion 1 1.4 TDCi.
50k, lady owner, e/pack, low ins, 60mpg, £35 per year road tax.

05 VAUXHALL Vectra 1.9 CDTi Design
2 owners, fsh, alloys, a/c, 6 speed box, plush trim, 50 mpg

04 PEUGEOT 307 2.0 HDi
27k, fsh, 2 owners, alloys, a/c, cd system, roof rails, super mpg, pristine

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The abandoned match frustrates the first XI

COWBRIDGE FIRST XI welcomed Dafen Cricket Club to the Athletic Field on Saturday praying for a victory, but more realistically hoping for a good performance, especially with the bat.

The morning brought some heavy showers, but thanks to the new covers keeping the wicket bone dry, the match began on time.

It was preceded by a minute's silence in memory of Alcwyn Jenkins, who died tragically last week while umpiring a match.

Tom Merilaht lost the toss and the visiting captain put Cowbridge in to bat, hoping to gain some easy bowling points in the light of Cowbridge's recent poor batting form.

However, despite the loss of an early wicket, the Cowbridge pair of Tom Merilaht and Mike Lloyd enjoyed the best start to the season so far.

Unfortunately, this good start quickly evaporated when the threatened rains arrived causing the match to be abandoned.

Twenty three overs had been bowled when the umpires called a halt. When play ended Tom Merilaht had scored 42 and Mike Lloyd 39, with the total at 93.

The skipper summed up a frustrating time for his side with the comment: "It's a shame the rain came after the early platform was laid. The attack had been taken to Dafen and they did not look like the second team in the league. Next week we need to continue where we left off."

Next Saturday the First XI travels to Gowerton and the Second XI is at home. Support is welcome, as always.

DL

SPORTS NEWS FROM COWBRIDGE COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

Extras are crucial as year-9 boys make final

COWBRIDGE Comprehensive's year-9 cricket team are into the County Final after an outstanding performance from Harry Byes and Freddy Wides!

With captain Dan Peters electing to bat against a strong Fitzalan team, Cowbridge got off to a poor start with the early wickets of the captain and Jack Davies falling for only three runs.

Harry Collier steadied the ship with a creditable 18. Chris Brace hit some excellent boundaries for a quick 22, and both George Brown and Mike Barrett pushed into double figures.

The side finished on a decent score of 131 for 8, but with the very small boundary this was not an impossible task for Fitzalan.

The home team started strongly, with opening bat Ammed reaching 30 with a series of quick boundaries.

Peters and Davies were very tight as they opened the bowling for Cowbridge, but it was Chris Brace who turned up the pressure on the Fitzalan batting attack with some quality pace bowling.

Fitzalan looked to be in the lead and, with two overs remaining, they only needed 12 runs.

However, Peters and Davies bowled brilliantly to claim three wickets for only nine runs in the last two overs.

Well played boys, and a special thank you to Alex Scott Coombes and Matt Williams for joining the team late.

Men bowlers suffer at hands of Pontypridd

COWBRIDGE lady bowlers only had one game this week, a home league game against Millwood, which they won well 68-44, for 10 valuable points.

Joan Bradley's rink of Glenys Davies, Marg Smith and Joy Woolford won well, 32-8.

Sue Flower's rink of Mary Thomas, Barbara Slade and Pauline McAllen won 29-9, with Pat Davey's rink of Lynda Wilson, Pat Houldsworth and Judy Springett, being the only losers by 15-23.

The men had two games, losing both. First, away to Dinas Powys in the Munro Cup, they lost in a very tight game by 57-69. Brian Kent's rink of Colin Wilson, Steve Dickens and Brian Williams had a good draw 16-16 to earn the only point. Mike Bradley's rink lost 15-20; Byron Richard's rink lost 10-13 and Roger Barwick's rink lost 16-20.

Then in the league, away to Pontypridd, they lost playing in heavy rain by 41-113, losing on all four rinks.

The cricket in the test match may stop for rain, but not us old bowlers!

Rinks scores: Brian Kent's lost 14-22, Byron Richards' lost 6-24, Mike Bradley's lost 9-38 and Roger Barwick's lost 12-29.

NJW

Ysgol Iolo Morgannwg are the Kwik cricket champions after win

LEFT: Pupils from Ysgol Iolo Morgannwg, the festival's champion team.

PUPILS from Ysgol Iolo Morgannwg in Cowbridge have won a Vale Kwik cricket festival, beating rivals from 20 other local primary schools.

Organised by the Vale Council's Dragon Sport team, and sponsored by ASDA's Cardiff Bay store, the festival featured eight-a-side games played by mixed teams of boys and girls at Penarth Athletic Ground.

After an initial group stage, the knock-out rounds climaxed with Ysgol Iolo Morgannwg taking the 2009 title by beating last year's champions, Llangan Primary School, in the final.

The Vale's Dragon Sport assistant Pete Hardwick said: "By playing to the rules of Kwik cricket, with appropriate sized equipment, this festival was an excellent opportunity for the boys and girls to play the game and develop their skills against other schools."

Throughout the summer holidays, ASDA are offering free sports sessions for children. *Further details can be obtained in store or online at www.asdasportingchance.co.uk*

Cowbridge RFC's optimism as training starts again

THREE training sessions have been held and there is a renewed air of optimism at Cowbridge RFC as new head coach Phil Ager takes charge.

Phil is a hard taskmaster but the boys are relishing the challenge of getting as fit as possible.

Attendance has been encouraging, but Phil has been emphasising the need for a regular Seconds team to complement a strong Firsts, so more players are needed.

If you think you can contribute to what should be an exciting season then please come training on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7pm where you will be given an enthusiastic welcome.

It's hard to believe that the league program starts in just eight weeks,and for those who can't wait that long there are two 'friendlies' - Bryncethin away on August 22, and one that everyone will be looking forward to, Llantwit Major away on April 29. The youth have a home game on Friday, August 28, opposition to be arranged.

For those who like to plan their weekends well ahead,the league fixtures begin with a home game against St Albans on September 5, followed by an away game against newcomers Blackwood Stars on the September 12 and Canton home on September 19. The month finishes with an away game against Cefn Coed on the 26th.

Finally, club members will be saddened to hear of the passing away of Colin Dent following a long illness. Colin played in various positions in the pack for the Seconds and Thirds in the late 80s and early 90s and will be remembered for his powerful running, often carrying half the opposition pack with him while politely questioning where the support was.

Our sympathies go out to his family.

RV/RK

Pencoed Triathlon Club
Tuska Triathlon - Sunday, 23rd August
8.30am Porthcawl Seafront
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Incorporates the 2009 Welsh Sprint Championships & Part Welsh Grand Prix Series 2009
Open water sea swim, challenging undulating cycle course and a scenic run route.
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